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Death sentence for terrorist

ALON PINKAS

SA'ID Badarna, 24, was sentenced to death by the Jenin Military Court yesterday for his part in the April 13 attack, in which a terrorist blew himself up after boarding a bus at the Hadera central bus station.

Badarna, from the village of Yabed in Samaria, headed the Hamas cell that carried out the April 13 attack, in which a terrorist blew himself up after boarding a bus at the Hadera central bus station. The death penalty is not likely to be enforced, however, and will probably be reduced to multiple life terms on appeal. Only twice before have terrorists been sentenced to death, and in both cases the sentence was reduced on appeal.

Full story, Page 3

High Court delays ruling on coalition agreement

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday postponed ruling on the legality of the Labor-Shas coalition agreement, but sharply attacked the pact during a seven-hour hearing.

Deputy President Aharon Barak even termed it "an agreement to circumvent democracy."

The agreement states that "if the status quo on religious issues is violated, the two sides promise to correct the violation by means of appropriate legislation."

Originally, even Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair said this seemed to be illegal, because it made a blanket promise instead of reserving the government's right to examine each proposed piece of legislation on its merits.

Labor and Shas therefore published a clarification: "In any case where the two sides think the status quo has been violated, the two sides will investigate, in a serious and reasonable manner - considering each case on its own merits - how it is possible to restore the status quo, and will act accordingly."

According to Ben-Yair, this solved the problem.

However, Court President Meir Shamgar, Barak, and Justices Eliezer Goldberg, Mishael Cheshin, and Theodor Orr seemed to disagree.

"What's the difference between the old agreement and the new one?" demanded Barak.

Labor Party legal adviser Amnon Lorch replied that the new agreement did not mandate legislation, since many violations of the proposed status quo could be solved at the administrative or even municipal level. However, Barak rejected this argument, saying it was obviously directed at least partially at High Court rulings, and these can only be overturned by legislation.

"Stop trying to throw sand in our eyes," he said. "We know what this refers to."

Lorch also insisted the addition made it clear both sides would use their judgment on any given issue. However, the justices said, it

(Continued on Page 12)



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat meet with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez yesterday before receiving the Prince of Asturias peace prize.

Rabin calls for 'investment in peace'

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

interim arrangements in the West Bank. We agreed to do so. Next Monday in Brussels these negotiations will start."

In his address after accepting the award, Arafat emphasized the importance of Palestinian elections, originally set for July and postponed again this month.

"One of the most important means towards the reinforcement of the peace process ... is by enabling the Palestinian people to choose their representatives and constituencies freely," he said.

Donor nations are to meet in Brussels on Wednesday to discuss making good on some \$2.2 billion in aid pledged over five years, Rabin said.

"They demand the channeling of money be done in transparent and accountable ways, and they have not yet reached agreement with the PLO," he said.

Israel will participate in next week's talks and try to smooth the way for rapid delivery of the promised aid, he added.

During Rabin's visit to Washington earlier this week, US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said he believed Arafat could succeed in quelling Palestinian unrest if he had enough support from donor nations.

After his meeting with Gonzalez in Madrid, Arafat said there was evidence of "an Iranian conspiracy" in last week's clashes between Palestinian Police and demonstrators in Gaza City, in which 12 people were killed.

He pointed to a statement by former Iranian interior minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, promising that Moslems would carry out "the sentence of God against the enemies of Islam and the Moslems."

Declarations by Hamas "revealed the dimensions of the Iranian conspiracy and their implication in the disturbances," Arafat said.

Deri: Court has no right to interfere in Shas deal

SARAH HONIG

He said that he had intended to appear before the court to argue that the agreement falls outside its jurisdiction, "but I was dissuaded by Labor, which feared that I might hurt the case. They advised me to hire a lawyer to argue my case, but I refuse professional legal representation because I will not concede that this is a bona fide legal issue."

As a result, Deri explained,

Shas representatives did not appear in court.

Deri's strongly-worded attack on the court shows, it was agreed in both parties, that he feels a decision against the deal is a foregone conclusion.

Labor resumed unofficial attempts to replace the current agreement, which it believes is doomed, with another which might bring Shas back to the coalition without running afoul of the court.

Labor hopes to convince Shas to opt for an unofficial agreement which could not be pinned down, and therefore could not be opposed in the courts.

A senior Shas source said the party is "unlikely to go for such a deal. Labor could all too easily renege, denying the agreement's existence when it is expedient to do so."

(Continued on Page 12)

Palestinian Police, IDF on full alert for Hamas rally

ALON PINKAS and JON IMMANUEL

IDF units and the Palestinian Police force are on full alert, as a large-scale Hamas demonstration scheduled for today threatens to spill over into mass rioting and attacks on IDF positions throughout the Gaza Strip.

In a reversal of instructions, army units have been ordered not to retreat from their positions in the face of advancing crowds, as they did last weekend. That retreat drew heavy political criticism.

"The guidelines have not changed. But specifically for this Friday, soldiers have been instructed not to retreat, and to shoot if necessary, should riots erupt and turn into attacks on army positions," said a senior military source in Gaza.

Soldiers on guard duty, he added, will have a bullet in the chamber of their weapons.

Hamas announced plans for a massive rally, which is to begin as today's midday prayers end. Supporters are expected to converge in central Gaza City in a show of political power.

Hamas saw this week's PLO rallies in Jericho and Gaza as a provocation, which pushed them to plan today's rally to be bigger and more strident than originally intended.

Sufian Abu Zayde, head of Fatah's Israeli desk, said he was sure the rally would pass peacefully, and that the Fatah Hawks would observe the agreement between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas negotiated Wednesday night.

"The government depends on Fatah, which is the only organization which supports it," he said.

But Palestinian security officials told IDF officers they fear that incitement in the mosques will inevitably lead to a loss of control.

The agreement between Hamas and the PA states that the Palestinian Police will not prevent Hamas from staging the rally, that police would not be present at the rally, and that no weapons will be displayed or shots fired in the air.

The accord was worked out by Yasser Arafat's special aide, Dr. Ahmed Tibi, Sheikh Abdullah Nizar Darwish, head of the (Islamic) Islamic Movement, Ibrahim Sarsour, the spokesman of the movement, and Dr. Haidar Abd-

el-Shafi, whose own popularity has increased through his mediation efforts. Islamic Jihad is not a party to the agreement.

The agreement was tested yesterday, when shots were fired at the Gaza homes of three Hamas leaders, apparently by a group of Fatah Hawks asserting control of the streets. Fatah Hawks carrying weapons were seen in several areas of Gaza City.

Hamas accused Fatah of breaching the agreement, but pledged to keep its part regarding today's demonstration.

In preparation for possible riots, the army reinforced its positions at the Kissufim, Gush Katif, and Netzarim junctions, and at the Erez checkpoint. An army source said that Palestinian Police had already deployed in some areas at the IDF's request.

"The level of cooperation is satisfactory. It is a mutual interest of both Israel and the Palestinian Authority that riots be contained," the source said.

Yesterday, Gaza police released 20 more Islamic Jihad supporters, who had been arrested after the suicide bombing at the Netzarim position two weeks ago that killed three soldiers. This brings the total released to 43, with some 70 still in jail.

Herb Keiron adds:

The 30 families in Netzarim will be carefully watching the developments in Gaza today, and will check with the IDF before venturing onto the road out of their settlement. Netzarim spokeswoman Miri Harari said.

But, she said, life in the settlement will go on as usual. People will go to work, and a number of groups from around the country are expected to come to the settlement over Shabbat to show their support.

"We trust the IDF completely and are confident in its ability to defend us," Harari said.

Harari said the embattled IDF position at the Netzarim junction is not the settlement's only, or even primary, line of defense.

"Life here is continuing as normal," she said. "But we are following everything that happens in Gaza very carefully, because what happens there does impact on us."

Harari said her main concern at this point is for the safety of the soldiers at the junction.

Heavy support for violence, Page 2

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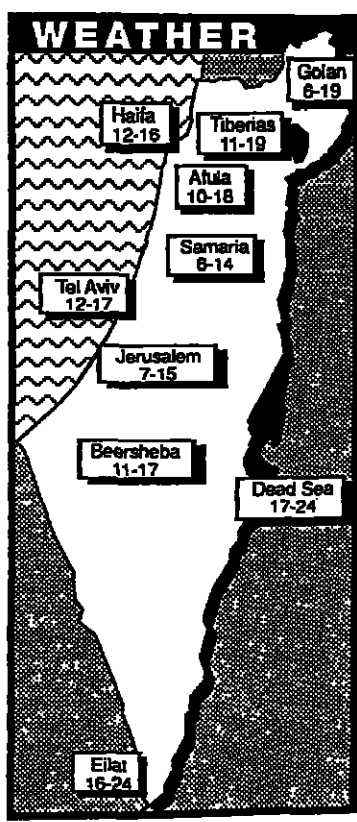
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Hamas agrees to no arms, no threats at today's rally

HAMAS plans to bring tens of thousands of supporters to a Gaza rally this afternoon, with the aim of dwarfing Monday's pro-Arafat rally.

The Palestinian Authority and Hamas worked out a temporary accord Wednesday night to head off any violence at the rally, following the riot last Friday which left 12 dead and 200 wounded. Hamas has agreed not to carry arms or issue threats in speeches or in leaflets at the rally.

The Palestinian Authority agreed that Fatah Hawks, who emerged armed this week at the side of PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, will keep away. Only police will carry arms and they must remain out of sight of the rally.

Most violence has been directed at Israeli troops in eight attacks since last Friday's Palestinian police suppression of a riot at the Palestine Mosque.

Today's rally was officially

JON IMMANUEL

called to mark the anniversary of the death of Imad Akel, a gunman who killed 13 Israeli soldiers before being shot dead by undercover troops last year.

A leaflet by Izzadin Kassam, the Hamas armed wing, yesterday took responsibility for a dawn attack on an IDF patrol near Rafiah. Israeli troops rather than Palestinian police are most likely to be targeted today.

Both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority have avoided a complete break by blaming Israel, Iran or both for instigating last week's riot.

Three hours after Wednesday night's accord was signed, unidentified gunmen fired at the home of a Hamas signatory Dr. Mahmoud Zahar, and one bullet smashed through a window. "Six or more shots were fired at our house at one in the morning," his

daughter said. Zahar blamed "a third hand," meaning Israel. Shots were also fired near the homes of two other Hamas leaders associated with the accord.

Whether today's rally remains peaceful or erupts into violence will be a major test for the infant authority and will have a direct effect on the future of Gaza and the Palestinian autonomy.

Police are worried that one or two troublemakers opening fire at today's rally in the Shajaiya neighborhood of Gaza City could start a conflagration.

Stronger non-violence accords between Fatah and Hamas have failed in the past and this one is weaker than most.

Zahar told the Post that this accord does not solve any of the problems between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority. "It is partial and limited and the aim is to bypass a difficult situation for the next few days only."



Armed Fatah Hawks gather at a community hall in Gaza City yesterday, the meeting was called to raise morale among the faction. (Reuters)

Nablus center's poll: Palestinians still support violence against Israel

JON IMMANUEL

oppose violence against Israel. But both parties together are supported by less than 10% of the Palestinian population.

The poll was conducted last Thursday, the day before last week's riots and shootings outside the Palestine Mosque in Gaza City. The survey polled 1,076 adults, and has a 3% margin of error.

Among opponents of the peace process, almost twice as many Hamas and Islamic Jihad supporters oppose violence (18%) as those who support the secular left-wing Popular and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine (close to 10%). This may indicate wider

ideological diversity in the Islamic groups than in the Marxist ones, although in practice the Islamic groups are more violent than the PFLP and DFLP.

Another indication of ideological diversity is shown by responses to a question on proposed political solutions to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. They indicate that 20% of Fatah supporters would opt for an Islamic solution, "calling for the liberation of Palestine from the [Mediterranean] sea to the [Jordan] river," and 15% of Hamas supporters would opt for a PLO-sponsored two-state solution.

By contrast, FIDA supporters, 75% of whom oppose violence, are 100% for a two-state solution.

US Secretary: US concerned about those who undermine peace anywhere

DAVID RUDGE

THE US is concerned about radicals who challenge the peace process in the Middle East and other parts of the world, US Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

"Those of us who believe in peace must make it very clear that we will prevail and not the radicals," she said during a visit to the Yemin Orde Youth Aliya village on Mt. Carmel.

She pledged that the US would fight the "radicals" as it had done in other parts of the world by supporting "those leaders who believe in peace."

"In this case our strong support of the government of Israel, of the

new government in Palestine of [PLO leader] Yasser Arafat, of King Hussein and of all those who believe in peace," she said.

"The Israelis, the Palestinians, the Jordanians and the Egyptians have taken a giant step. We support the process that is going on. We hope for its success and there are already indications of its success."

"My coming to this country

right after the president's visit is an indication of our support for the peace process and we have no reason to believe that the future holds anything except the promise for peace," she said in answer to questions about the threat posed

by extremist Hamas and Islamic Jihad elements to the Israel-PLO accord.

Shalala, who was last night awarded an honorary doctorate in science by the Technion, intends to visit Gaza tomorrow to learn more about health needs there and in the West Bank.

The descendant of Lebanese immigrants to the US, Shalala told participants at last night's ceremony that as the "first woman of Arab descent to receive an honorary degree from the Technion, I am especially honored to join with you in breaking down one more barrier and opening up one more channel of peace in this rapidly changing region."

Gaza City almost back to normal

EYEWITNESS

LAMIA LAHOUD

GAZA City has almost returned to normal after last Friday's bloody clashes between Hamas and the Palestinian Police which left 12 people dead.

"Things are pretty much back to normal, only there are more security personnel and more Fatah activists on the streets," said Omar Sarraj, a wealthy businessman from Gaza City who has close links to the Palestinian Authority.

On the coastal road leading to Yasser Arafat's headquarters, several checkpoints have been set up and all cars seeking to pass are stopped.

"The people will not allow anyone to take their newly found freedom and security away," said Sarraj. He said the people are beginning to understand that Hamas had incited the shoot-out last Friday.

"Since it was made public that most of those killed were from Fatah, the anger is turning against Hamas," he said.

But the families of those killed hold the PA responsible for not providing security.

Nevin Anachala, 24, sister of Alaam Anachala, 19, one of the victims, said the family was pro-Fatah until last Friday. Now, they are angry at Arafat and the clubs.

PA. The family does not know where the shots came from or who opened fire.

Cousin Abdallah, 17, was with Alaam when he got shot. "We were talking to some friends, when suddenly someone opened fire from somewhere," he said.

Nevin said she would vote for whoever could provide security and improve the economic situation. So far, Arafat has been unable to do so, she said.

Iyad Sarraj, a psychiatrist, said Friday's incident left Gazans insecure and depressed. He said people had high expectations when the PA took over, and are disappointed living conditions have not yet improved. He said security is the most important need of most Gazans, and that this is the right time to disarm all Palestinians.

"The problem is that the

armed population and the police are undisciplined. As long as everybody is armed, there can easily be more bloody incidents," he warned.

Nabil Shaath, who holds the planning portfolio in the PA, conceded the PA was responsible for Friday's bloodshed because it failed to maintain order. He also said its attitude toward Hamas had changed, and the PA will no longer tolerate security violations.

Shaath said Hamas can only participate in the PA if it operates within the law and accepts the peace process. He added that as long as the economic situation does not improve and the peace process does not move ahead, Hamas will continue to incite riots and take advantage of the people's frustration.

Another Palestinian official said it is about time the PA let Hamas know what its red lines are. "If we let Hamas play with us and manipulate us, we will have a situation like in Egypt and Algeria," he said.

IDF, SLA gunners blast suspected terror targets

IDF and South Lebanese Army gunners blasted terrorist targets north of the security zone yesterday, following two separate attacks on SLA positions.

In the morning an SLA post in the Ghazian region came under light weapons fire. Later in the afternoon, two more positions in the Ghazian and Soujoud areas were attacked in a similar fashion.

There were no casualties among IDF or SLA troops in the area.

Probe: Unit could not deal with soldier who stole tank

ALON PINKAS

SGT. Amit Nehemia, the soldier who stole a tank earlier this month, was a quiet, dedicated, and good soldier, according to the final report of the committee which investigated the incident.

But, the panel said, he also harbored resentment toward his unit, which ignored his distress signs and was unqualified to deal with his problems.

Nehemia took an M-60 tank from his base in Julis on November 6. He then went on a rampage, driving the tank to Ashdod and then toward Yavne, hitting a bus and injuring nine passengers, before a track fell off near Moshav Beit Zakkai.

Nehemia surrendered after 4½ hours of negotiations with police.

The committee concluded that while all IDF units undergo extensive training on how to deal with distressed soldiers, junior officers and NCOs are unqualified and ill-equipped to deal with soldiers like Nehemia.

In the tank mechanics unit to which Nehemia was temporarily assigned, going to a psychologist was deemed negative and contemptible, said the committee. Despite this, Nehemia was a good soldier, who kept his grievances inside until he apparently couldn't bear it any longer.

The committee recommended that all soldiers and officers be professionally instructed in confronting similar situations.

The Military Police is still investigating the incident, and will report to the Judge Advocate-General's Office on its conclusions.

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Death penalty unlikely to be carried out for convicted Hamas terrorist

SAID Badarna, 24, was sentenced to death by the Jenin Military Court yesterday for his part in the April bus bombing in Hadera, in which five people were killed and 30 wounded.

Badarna, a Hamas member from the village of Yabed in Samaria, headed the Izzadin Kassam cell that carried out the April 13 attack, in which a terrorist blew himself up after boarding a bus at the Hadera Central bus station.

The death penalty is not likely to be carried out, however, and will probably be reduced to multiple life terms on appeal.

Only twice before have terrorists been sentenced to death, but in both cases the sentence was reduced on appeal.

The conviction was based on Badarna's confession and the testimony of two other cell members.

Badarna's lawyer claimed the confession had been extracted under undue pressure, but the three-judge panel, headed by Lt.-Col. Oded Pessenson, rejected this claim.

ALON PINKAS and Ilan

Both conviction and sentence were arrived at unanimously. A death sentence can only be imposed by a unanimous vote.

The sentence was imposed even though the military prosecutor had only asked for life imprisonment.

After the conviction was announced, before the judges convened to determine the sentence, Badarna told the court that terror attacks would continue, and that Jews here should emigrate or convert to Islam if they hoped to remain alive.

The death penalty, though legal, has only been carried out once, the execution of Adolf Eichmann in 1962.

The prevailing attitude with regard to terrorists is that executions would turn them into martyrs, and would also deprive the government of a bargaining chip in prisoner or hostage negotiations.

"Almost certainly there will be another deliberation... and I tend to believe the military court of ap-

peals won't uphold the punishment," Amnon Zichroni, a prominent defense attorney, told Channel 2 last night.

Citing the two previous instances where death sentences were reduced, Zichroni said, "One imagines that in this instance, too, an appeal will be submitted, and the final ruling will be in the hands of the military court of appeals."

"It must be understood that the deed we are speaking of was despicable. But the big question is whether the punishment that was imposed is a wise punishment," Zichroni said.

In Jerusalem, meanwhile, a 17-year-old terrorist was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment, after being convicted of attempting to murder passengers on an Egged bus in the capital in April.

The youth, who had attacked one passenger on the No. 25 bus with an axe, was shot and wounded by a soldier riding on the bus.

In a plea bargain, the youth pleaded guilty in return for a sentence of less than 20 years.

Border policeman held for selling stolen weapon

A BORDER policeman suspected of selling a stolen weapon to a drug dealer was remanded for four days by Ramle Magistrate's Court yesterday.

The case surfaced several months ago when stolen weapons were found at the home of a known criminal in Lod. The man gave police the names of several people he said had sold him the weapons.

Following an intensive undercover investigation by police and the GSS, David Meshiah, 40, was arrested on Tuesday. He is suspected of selling one weapon.

Other suspects were also questioned by the GSS.

Meshiah, who has served in the Border Police for the past 20 years, is a member of the Jaffa-based patrol unit. He was born a Beduin and converted to Judaism a few years ago.

Police said in court they have evidence that Meshiah sold at least one pistol to the Lod drug dealer, but are examining the possibility that weapons may have ended up in the hands of terrorists.

Police also said Meshiah was allegedly involved in drug dealing activities.

Raine Marcus

Ministry to air problems with Egypt

DAVID MAKOVSKY

THE Foreign Ministry will hold internal consultations next week to discuss problems in relations with Egypt.

Officials say the relationship has been characterized both by significant political problems and a fresh Egyptian interest to somewhat improve moribund economic ties.

One Foreign Ministry official sought to minimize the importance of next week's consultations, insisting, "It's periodic; it's not dramatic. It will just provide an opportunity for many people to be updated."

Political differences between the two countries have accumulated. In recent months, the Egyptians have urged other Arab countries not to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) when it comes up for renewal next spring, unless Israel signs as well.

During the current UN General Assembly session, Egypt has spearheaded a resolution calling for no extension of NPT unless Israel commits to the accord. Egypt has also used its call for restrictions on Israel's reputed nuclear capability as a battering ram in multilateral negotiations on regional issues.

With only a little over four months before renewal, Western diplomats said they are surprised the US has not become more seriously engaged and used its \$2.1 billion in annual aid to Cairo as a lever to ensure that Egypt drops

the issue.

On a separate point, Egypt feels upset about being excluded from the Israel-Jordan breakthrough. President Hosni Mubarak told reporters he would not attend the treaty signing even if invited; he wasn't.

Furthermore, President Ezer Weizman, an early supporter of Israel-Egyptian relations, has reportedly recently said he would not visit Egypt until Mubarak, who has been president for 13 years, makes his first visit here. Until recently, Israel has avoided pressing this issue lest it complicate Mubarak's battle against the Islamic movement in his country.

Finally, security officials told the cabinet this week that the explosives used in recent Hamas suicide bombings - including the Tel Aviv attack - originated in Egypt, finding their way to Israel either by tunnel or sea. It remains unclear if Israeli security personnel are accusing their Egyptian counterparts of negligence or, worse, of turning a blind eye.

But all is not negative in the relationship. Officials note that on many occasions Mubarak has been helpful in obtaining PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's consent to proposals that he would have otherwise rejected.

In the economic sphere, the picture is just

starting to change.

Since last year's Israel-PLO breakthrough, Egyptian tourism to Israel has gone from nil to 1,000 people a month, officials noted. Suffering from a sharp drop in foreign tourism due to attacks against tourists by Islamic militants, Cairo is very keen on regional tourism packages with Israel and Jordan.

Furthermore, Egyptian ministers have begun visiting. Sources said the Egyptian are now coming around to the view that they must improve their very poor commercial relationship with Israel, in light of the potential of Israeli trade with Jordan and other Arab countries.

"There is a struggle going on in Egypt between those who look at the Casablanca business conference and want to be part of a new region driven by economic factors, and those who are always looking for ways that point to Egypt's centrality in the Arab world," one official said. "The first impulse works for greater cooperation with Israel, while the second sometimes comes at our expense."

Egypt has become sensitive to Israeli criticism. After a report on problems in the relationship ran in *The Jerusalem Post* a few months ago, Foreign Minister Amr Moussa phoned Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to complain.

Border policemen injured in chase after Sinai thief

DAVID RUDGE and AMIR ROZENBLIT

TWO border policemen were injured in Baka al-Gharbiya yesterday during a car chase after a Beduin from Sinai, suspected of entering the country illegally and earning his living here from thefts.

The suspect was caught when one of the injured policemen jumped from his crashed vehicle, continued the chase on foot and managed to shoot the suspect in the arm.

The suspect was lightly wounded. He was taken, with the injured border policeman, to Hillel Yaffe Hospital in Hadera for treatment.

Police said the suspect was believed to have been in the country for over a month and had been

involved in the thefts of and from cars, as well as other crimes.

The drama began when police in the Herzliya area spotted a car that had been reported stolen. They followed the vehicle to Baka al-Gharbiya, where the suspect stopped.

Ch. Supt. Levi Soen said the suspect was stopped at a roadblock and two officers approached him. The latter, however, suddenly sped off in the car, followed by the officers.

Soen said that during the chase, the pursuing policemen had to decide whether to risk a head-on collision with an oncoming car. They

chose instead to crash their own vehicle into a wall, during which two of them were injured.

The suspect also abandoned his car and one of the injured policemen chased him on foot, eventually firing from his pistol and wounding the man in his arm.

Meanwhile, four Gaza Arabs sneaked across the border into Moshav Yevul on Wednesday night, but were caught early yesterday morning after extensive searches by the army.

It still was not clear yesterday whether the four intended to commit a terror attack. Army sources

said a preliminary investigation showed that the four had crossed the border to find work.

One of the suspects, Talal Abu Gshein, said, "I am not a wanted man. We were trying to steal some food."

Three of the infiltrators were found in a field near the moshav, after soldiers searched there for several hours. The three had apparently covered their tracks well and had burrowed into the ground, covering themselves with branches, and the searchers literally tripped over them.

The fourth man was arrested in Gaza, as he tried to return to his home in Rafiah.

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STATE OF ISRAEL

Visits to the Knesset Building

On Sunday, November 27, there will be no visits of the Knesset building, after 12 noon.



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**On November 28th, the EC/EU plans to lift
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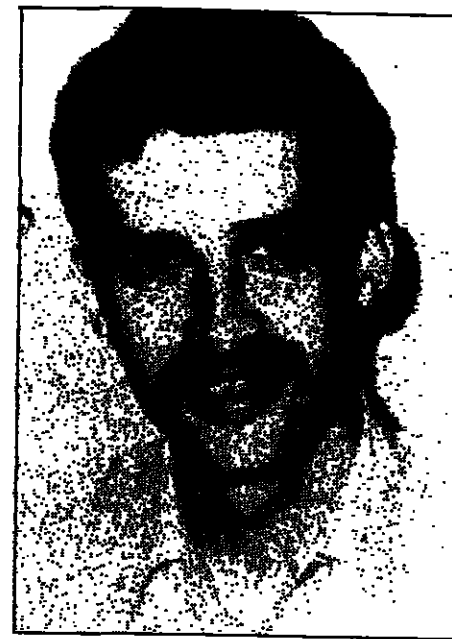
**On that day these men will enter
their 4550th day in captivity.**



Zachary Baumel



Zvi Feldman



Yehuda Katz

Assad Knows... On June 11, 1982 these men were captured in Syrian controlled Lebanon and paraded in Damascus on the same day.

Assad Knows... They have been treated as hostages, denied the basic rights as prisoners of war. None of the prisoners has been allowed a visit from any humanitarian organization.

Assad Knows... Numerous sources, including the 1988 Amnesty Report, have reported that the men are alive. They are believed to be held in Syrian controlled Lebanon.

Assad Knows... The 1949 Geneva Convention (Section 2, Articles XI and XII) hold Syria responsible for their fates.

Assad Knows where they are.

**The EC/EU must not give him what he *wants*
until he tells us what he *knows*.**

On Monday November 28th, Jewish and Christian European nationals, together with concerned members of the Israeli community will raise a united voice against this moral outrage. This Rally of Conscience will be held from 2:00 - 3:00 pm outside the EC offices in Tel Aviv, 3 Daniel Frisch Street.

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A documentary to ponder

FOR Americans, talk of holy war must seem like something out of an exotic movie script. But a television documentary screened this week in the US on Public Broadcasting Service stations (and in Israel on Channel 1) should have disabused viewers of the notion that religious wars are extinct, or that, at worst, they are confined to remote places like Afghanistan.

Perhaps the most frightening aspect of this extraordinary documentary, produced by investigative reporter Steve Emerson, is that American Islamic groups - led by the Council on American Islamic Relations, which claims to be moderate - made extraordinary efforts to prevent its screening. In the film, Emerson stresses that those who call for jihad against the Jews and the West are distorting and subverting the true meaning of Islam. The West's struggle, he asserts, is against terrorists, not Islam. If anything, true believers should welcome the film: it exposes Islamic elements they should be interested in eradicating.

Islamic terrorists differ from the terrorist movements the world became accustomed to in the 1970s and 1980s. The radical groups of those decades, trained by the PLO and supported by the Soviet Union, saw in the capitalistic, democratic West a common enemy. But since they had little else in common, their symbiotic relationship began only a loose federation of convenience.

But the Islamic groups are united by a passion. The religious fanaticism which moves the mujahadeen of Afghanistan is identical to that which animates members of Islamic groups in Brooklyn. And for the first time since the Comintern managed to establish a global network through indoctrination and misguided ideology, there is now an anti-democratic movement which can effectively reach all the corners of the earth. Its recruits are not young idealists intoxicated by the promise of socialism, but militant Moslems fed on hate and religious fervor.

Like the Communist parties of the past, Islamic militants have found the West's soft underbelly: the very freedoms that make democracy so attractive can be turned into instruments of its destruction. As former FBI official Oliver Revell put it in the film, freedom of speech and freedom of religion are the most precious, fundamental tenets of democratic society. To deny them is unthinkable.

But when they are exploited by terrorist groups masquerading as religious organizations, and when sermons in mosques announce that "we buy paradise with the blood of Jews," and "blood must flow; there must be widows and orphans; hands and limbs must be cut," democratic governments face critical choices.

If they uphold the right of citizens to free

speech and worship, even when it is indistinguishable from incitement, they invite terrorist strikes and disaster. If they do not, they shake the very foundations of democratic rule.

Officials interviewed on the program all agree that there is a connection between recruitment done under the guise of religious preaching and the execution of terrorist acts. One official insisted that militant sermons forecast precisely what the terrorists will do. To let them proceed with impunity is to invite bloodshed.

Nor do experts on Islamic terrorism doubt that the ultimate goal of the militants is not just the destruction of Israel but the defeat of the "great Satan," America. As one Islamic fanatic was recorded saying, in Afghanistan the mujahadeen defeated one of the superpowers, the USSR. Now there is no reason to believe they cannot beat anyone else who stands in their way.

For Israelis, pictures of preachers spouting poisonous, murderous hatred are not new. But there is much in this documentary that is instructive. The Islamic activists in the US, both those who financially support Hamas and Hizbullah and those who plant bombs and assassinate, are not downtrodden and poor. Nor do they live in hovels "under occupation." Yet their fervor and hatred are no less intense than that of Hamas suicide bombers here. To yell a teenager in an American summer camp yell *libah al Yahud* (slaughter the Jews) is to understand that building a few new factories in Gaza will not make the worldwide wave of Islamic fanaticism go away.

The film is also useful in that it dispels the notion that only paranoics and conspiracy theorists suspect that murders and bombings by Islamic operatives are not isolated incidents. The sight of a New York police official vehemently insisting that Sa'ad Nasseir, Meir Kahane's assassin, was a lone gunman with no connection to anyone is a perfect example of official refusal to let facts get in the way of a comfortable theory.

The 47 boxes of documents found in Nasseir's apartment, which proved that he was "at the heart of a worldwide terrorist network," as someone put it in the film, were ignored for four years. Only after the bombing of the World Trade Center did it become clear that had the documents been studied, the bombing could have been prevented.

Similar adherence to comfortable theories is what makes the world community flinch with Iran, the source of the fanatics' inspiration; woo Syria, which sponsors Hizbullah and Hamas; and wink at Saudi Arabia's financial support for Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Israel can only hope that the awakening, which this documentary should hasten, will come before disaster strikes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RABIN'S INSIGHT

Sir, - A senior intelligence officer was quoted (November 9) as having told the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee that "the description of Assad as a man who keeps his agreements is a myth." The report went on to state that our prime minister chose to reject this assessment.

May I direct your readers to the July 13, 1973 article by Mr. Rabin, in *Ma'ariv*, less than three months before the united Arab onslaught on Yom Kippur. Mr. Rabin chose to write: "Another development, which has a beneficial result as far as Israel is concerned, is the disappearance of Nasser from the Arab arena. The ability of the Arab states to coordinate their political or military activities has been reduced. Even in the past, this ability was not considerable - and now it has been curtailed even further."

Further on in his lengthy analysis, Mr. Rabin says: "This possibility of renewal of hostilities exists, but Israel's military capacity is sufficient to

preclude the other side's achievement of any military objective and inter-power political realities do not encourage such an outbreak."

The above raises some very pertinent questions and serious doubts regarding Mr. Rabin's self-professed insight, foresight and judgment.

Further in the above article, Mr. Rabin writes: "...I believe that Israel must maintain defensible borders. I am of the opinion that no responsible Israeli can accept the proposal that in return for a verbal assurance by the Arabs, we should withdraw to the [1949] armistice lines, the lines that existed prior to the Six Day War. We must learn the lessons of the past, and achieve boundary margins which will ensure the survival of Israel through defensible borders - in addition to Arab undertakings for peace."

How does this accord with Mr. Rabin's present policies?

MENACHEM BLOCH

Givatayim

SYRIAN JEWS

Sir, - I read with great interest your recent article on Syrian Jews. As a member of the Sephardi community in Brooklyn, and as one of the leaders of the committee in charge of the resettlement of the Syrian Jews in Brooklyn, I was astonished and disheartened to notice that from the list of all the organizations to whom you gave credit for the rescue of the Syrian Jews, you omitted the most important person, organization, and country that were the heart and soul, both financially and politically in the forefront of the movement to free the Syrian Jews.

Long before it was fashionable to take on the cause of the Syrian Jews, Judy Feld Carr of Toronto, Canada, championed the cause and plight of Syrian Jewry through the Dr. Ronald Feld Fund for Jews in Arab Lands, and the National Task Force for Syrian Jews of the Canadian Jewish Congress. For almost 25 years, Judy Feld Carr single-handedly provided the monetary assistance and support to the needy Jews of Syria as well as the political clout for their freedom. When some Jews were unfortunately jailed in Syria, she provided the money to hire lawyers and pay bribes to get them better treatment for release from jail. At the time when Russia was still a power behind Syria, and the US had no influence whatsoever

with the Syrian government, Mrs. Carr got the Canadian government to use its influence with the Syrian government for the release of jailed Jews and the freedom of the Syrian Jews. She was the link between some of the Syrian Jews who went to Israel and their loved ones left behind in Syria. She gathered information, published articles, wrote letters and even produced a video to bring to the attention of the entire free world the fate of Syrian Jewry.

SOLOMON SASSON

Clifton, New Jersey

PARENTS' VIEW

Sir, - As a parent of soldiers, I would hope that my sons would not risk their lives to repel an enemy who will be considered a friend tomorrow, or to hold on to territory which tomorrow will be returned.

If soldiers are punished by jail sentences - so be it. I would rather visit them in jail than in a cemetery. I am sure that most parents agree with me and have so advised their sons.

The patriotic spirit of "it's good to die for one's country" has been erased by the appeasement policies of the Rabin government.

JACOB CARTIN

Jerusalem

AMERICAN TROOPS

ON THE GOLAN

Sir, - The October 25 letter from Morton Klein, President of the Zionist Organization of America, referred to a story in your October 2 issue which quoted the American Zionist Movement as being critical of a panel convened by Rep. Jim Saxton (R-N.J.) to discuss the stationing of American troops on the Golan. Mr. Klein states there was no meeting of the constituent organizations of the AZM to authorize such a statement.

While there was no meeting, there definitely is a consensus among our membership. We support the peace process of the government of Israel. We are concerned about premature discussion in the Congress about US troops on the Golan Heights, when the parties themselves have not made such a request and when the current discussion is intended to kill the peace process. Mr. Klein does not want to accept that consensus does not mean unanimity.

Even one of the speakers invited by Congressman Saxton, Senator Arlen Specter, whose firm support of Israel is unquestioned, took the same position as the AZM, which is that such discussions are premature and harmful to the peace process.

SEYMOUR D. REICH,

American Zionist Movement
New York

KASTNER AFFIDAVITS

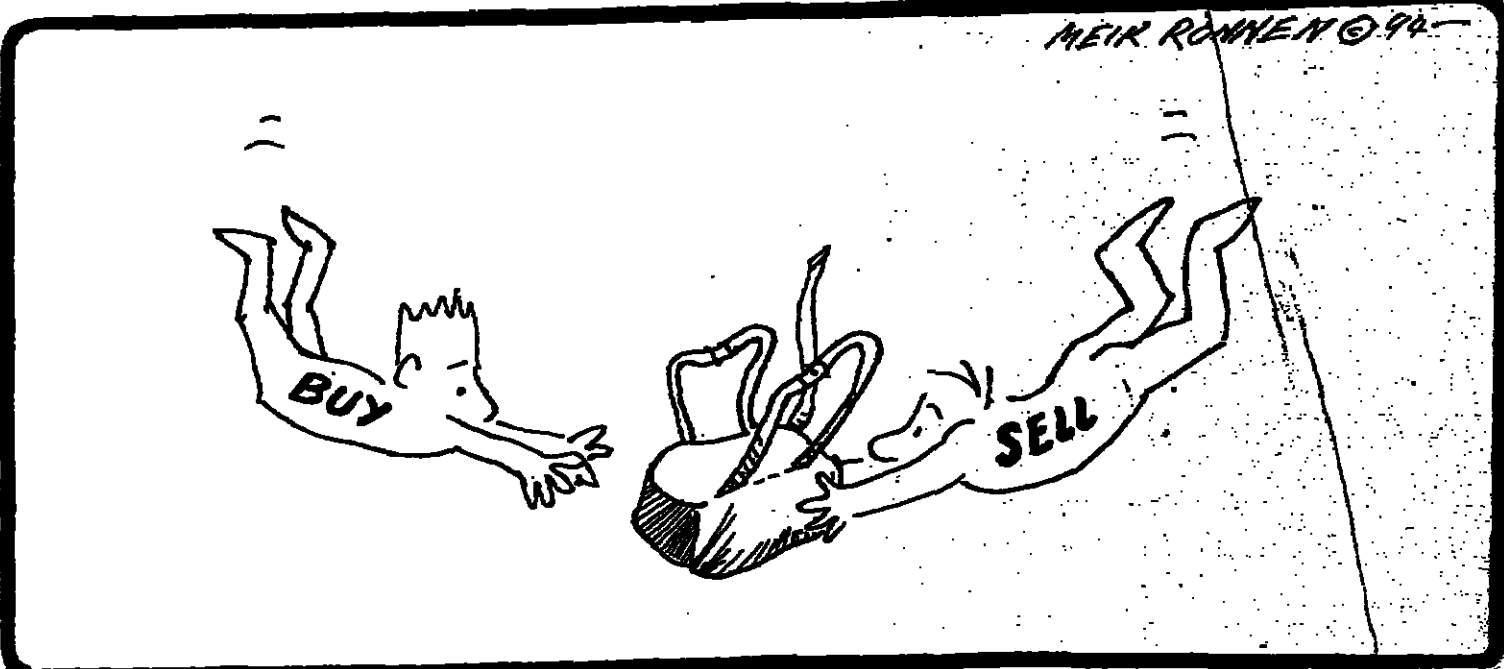
Sir, - The article by Elyakim Ha'etzi (November 8) is accurate in its comments on the Kastner affair and on his help in securing freedom for three Nazis.

It is not, however, the complete picture. I visited the law offices of Samuel Tamir on Rothschild Boulevard in Tel Aviv several months before he died. We discussed the Kastner case and Mr. Tamir referred to five Nazis being saved by Kastner affidavits.

I pointed out that the evidence, to date, revealed that only three had been saved. Tamir then advised me that the search (after the war) had gone on and that two more Kastner affidavits had been found. Since he was not aware of these two affidavits by the time Ben Hecht had completed his book, *Perfidy*, he was unable to cite any more than three affidavits.

AVRAHAM ERIS

Safed



Interview with a dead bomber

KENNETH R. TIMMERMAN

HOW easy is it for young men in the Gaza Strip to blow themselves up for a cause? That was one of the things the Simon Wiesenthal Center of Los Angeles wanted me to explore during a recent investigation into the motivations of radical Islamic groups which have vowed to smash the Middle East peace process through acts of suicidal terrorism.

Among the religious and political leaders I interviewed in three Arab capitals, none was more disturbing than a quiet-spoken, 21-year-old student at the Islamic University in Gaza City named Hisham Ismail Hamad.

I was introduced to him during a semi-clandestine meeting with a group of activists who claimed allegiance to the Islamic Jihad, arguably the deadliest terrorist movement now active in the Middle East.

Six days after this meeting, on November 11, young Hisham Ismail strapped explosives around his waist and drove his bicycle into an Israeli army checkpoint in Gaza, obliterating himself and three Israeli soldiers.

Did Hisham Ismail go calmly to his death? I can never know. But on the day we briefly met, death and revenge were certainly uppermost in his mind. I can only wonder whether the street chants of *Allahu akbar* and the angry sermons vowing revenge against Israel for having allegedly killed one of their own were not part of a carefully orchestrated plan to prepare Hisham Ismail to meet his own death.

I met Hisham Ismail and a group of Islamic Jihad militants in Gaza, near the house of Palestinian journalist Hani Abed, who had been killed by a car bomb on November 2. The Israelis had publicly blamed Abed for the drive-by shooting of two Israeli soldiers in Gaza in May. Whether the Israelis were actually behind his death will probably never be known. But Islamic Jihad certainly believed they were and vowed revenge.

The streets outside Hani Abed's house of mourning were filled with graffiti and huge banners proclaiming revenge. "Yes to martyr-

dom," read one banner. "The slaughter of the Jews is our choice to victory," read another. "The children of Israel will be the sheep for the butchers of the Islamic Jihad," read a third.

I was taken to an abandoned parking garage just off the street, where men prepared Arab coffee over a twig fire and passed around olives and pieces of pita. Cheap office chairs were arranged in a

circle, and six people sat down to tell me about Islamic Jihad, their hatred of Israel and the plots of World Jewry to destroy Islam and Christianity.

One of the men, about 40, identified himself as Omar Mohammad and was known to the others as *Khatib* - prayer leader - since he often spoke on Fridays at a Gaza mosque. Another, in his late 30s, called himself "Maher Mohammed" and was more of a political spokesman. A third, younger, man frequently interrupted the others to utter inflammatory statements. He called himself "Mahmoud Ahmed." Despite his youth, the older men were almost deferential to him, making me suspect he was connected to the movement's military wing.

Off in the far corner of our group sat Hisham Ismail Hamad, whose identity I learned only 10 days later, when my Palestinian contact phoned me in Washington with the news of his death. He stared at me intently throughout our interview, his eyes glazed over, nodding his head in assent. The whole scene had an air of ritual to it.

ALTHOUGH I did not know what Hisham Ismail was preparing to do, I could feel the throbs of anger and blood-revenge in the room. Khatib: "Today we have entered a new era, the era when Pal-

estinian blood is no longer cheap. The Israeli side should understand that we are not going to avoid spilling our dear Arab blood. They should know that the revenge will come."

Mahmoud Ahmed: "Islamic Jihad considers that Israel, Nazi US, Britain, France and the others are a cancer that must be removed. This is one of our central ideas. We would like to remind them that

the Argentine bombs are only one of the actions of the Islamic Jihad. We will continue this type of action. In fact, it is our main strategy."

A softer voice spoke then, and the others fell silent. It was Hisham Ismail: "Hani Abed, peace be upon him, is blessed today in heaven. He is not dead. No, he is happy. That is why the women are ululating: They are happy because he has given himself to Allah."

We then got to talking about Israel and what many in Hamas and Islamic Jihad believe is a plot by Jews to dominate the world. They said that the Jews had explained their devious intentions in *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

"According to the Torah," said Hisham Ismail, "the Jews say they are the leaders of nations. But in fact, Israel wants to destroy the world. They want to destroy American society, French society, British society. They want to destroy the whole world." Then he added: "But we believe Israel will be destroyed by Moslems. This is what the Koran says."

When I suggested that the state of Israel was a reality, these men vigorously disagreed.

"We Islamists can never accept such a state. We believe in Palestine from the river to the sea."

Said Hisham Ismail: "Our rejection of the Oslo agreement is not just words. How else do you un-

derstand our blood? Our rejection is not just words." They excused themselves then. It was time to preach more hatred and revenge to the crowd outside.

As I was putting together my notebook and cameras to join them, Hisham Ismail drew me aside. "If you want to learn more about the Jewish plot and the *Protocols*," he said quietly, "you should read a book called *Palestine* by Bayan Nouwayid Hont. He explains how the Jews themselves have revealed their intentions in the Torah. It is all written there. Believe me."

After his death, Hisham Ismail's mother and sister, wearing dark veils, waved his portrait on high. Men like the Friday prayer leader, Omar Mohammad, would surely tell them that their loved one had joined God in martyrdom, just as he and the others had said of Hani Abed. I am not so sure.

As terrorism experts such as Tel Aviv University's Michael Kramer have noted, suicide bombers are not a dime a dozen. Groups such as Islamic Jihad and Hizbullah must select them from a very small pool of potential candidates.

The bombers are generally aged between 14 and 22, without children of their own, and without a police record that would make them suspicious to the Israeli authorities. Once selected, they are indoctrinated into the ways of sacrifice. Or, if you prefer, prepared like sacrificial lambs for the knife.

To persuade young men like Hisham Ismail to blow themselves up, Islamic Jihad goes to great lengths to separate them from their families, sealing them off in a bubble of hate-filled rhetoric that makes their choice of death seem rational, even sublime.

How many more young men like Hisham Ismail are being prepared in Gaza? If the men I met are any measure, quite a few.

The writer is an international security consultant and author. This article was adapted from a forthcoming study on the peace process for Los Angeles's Simon Wiesenthal Center.

(Los Angeles Times)

The wrong rubber stamp

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

THE Tel Aviv bus bombing caused damage beyond loss of life, havoc, and the destruction of property. The Hamas suicide bomber, Salah Nazal of Kalkilya, also caused real damage to fundamental values embedded in the fabric of Israeli law.

For the first time, the High Court of Justice has legitimated the destruction of the dwelling belonging to the family of a dead terrorist.

The dwelling, which included a living area and a small detached structure, was the property of Nazal's father, who lived there with his wife and five of his children. Nazal's brother, Hassan, his wife and daughter shared the dwelling as a separate nuclear family.

The army ordered the destruction of the main structure, leaving the detached 24-square-meter unit as minimal lodging for Hassan and his family.

In its four-to-one decision, the High Court accepted the army's contention that its aim was not primarily punitive. Punishment, after all, requires a guilty party, and Nazal had blown himself up. His parents and their five children are injured parties, of course, but that is just side effect. The principal objective in destroying the dwelling was deterrence.

But is there any real difference between punishment and deterrence when the guilty party is no longer alive? Any reprisal, any retaliation, contains both elements.

The recent High Court decision goes a long way toward justifying a more or less barefaced reprisal, on the basis of its deterrent effect. The whole sorry business of destroying houses as a military sanction against a hostile civilian population has now come full circle. It came into our law from England, where it was institutional-

ized as a sanction against Irish insurgents in the early 1920s. As part of the British Mandatory Emergency Regulations, it remained in force in Israel (and in Jordan) after independence.

After 1967, the military, prodded by the High Court, made efforts to adjust the use of this sanc-

tion to the basic norms of criminal justice. Therefore, while accepting the judgment of the military with regard to the deterrent value of the sanction, against substantial contrary expert opinion, the High Court insisted on some linkage between the guilty party and the dwelling to be destroyed.

That is why the military refused to order the destruction of the Kiryat Arba home of Dr. Baruch Goldstein, who perished while perpetrating the Hebron massacre. Goldstein had caused a loss of life comparable to that of the Tel Aviv bombing. Last week's case, therefore, represents a major shift from the previous policy of not destroying the homes of dead terrorists.

THIS SHIFT in policy, the court declared, was justified by the threat of Hamas terrorism, with its fundamentalist glorification of a martyr's death. Only the knowledge that his family would suffer, argued the court, might deter a potential suicide terrorist.

Many will question whether this is a realistic assessment. Also, it patently ignores the pro-Hamas sympathy it will arouse in other segments of Palestinian society.

But most important, it ignores the effect of the new policy on the fundamental values of Israeli society.

This is more than just a failure to balance security interests against the basic human rights violated by the new policy, as the court has done in numerous cases

where security measures have infringed on conflicting interests.

When a court denies that constitutional guarantees of basic human rights have any relevance, because the emergency regulations authorizing the destruction of houses were in force before the Basic Law: Human Rights was enacted, it does violence to fundamental beliefs that underlie our way of life.

Among these is a belief in equality before the law.

Why was Goldstein different? He was a loner, argued the court, while the Hamas terrorist was part of an organization. This, with all due respect, is the most unconvincing portion of Justice Eilahu Mazza's majority opinion.

The short answer is, so what? Would a fanatic loner be less - or

more - likely to be deterred by the prospect of the destruction of the family home after his death than an organization terrorist? Surely the need for deterrence has little relationship to the wrongdoer's organizational ties.

Ronnie Liebowitz, the "motor-cycle bandid," was also a loner. But because he had become something of a folk hero, the court imposed a heavy sentence as a deterrent.

Any court anywhere is in a no-win trap when it is called to second-guess the military in times of stress, in situations where security considerations are paramount. But here the High Court has inflicted a wound on itself.

In effect, it hasn't just found that the army had the authority to act. Instead, it has reviewed and approved the decision of the military.

Without judicial review, the destruction of the dwelling of a dead terrorist's family would have remained a regrettable incident, a matter of military responsibility, something that occurred under trying circumstances.

Because of the legitimizing nature of the High Court's review, it has become part of our national body of law.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

POSTSCRIPT

THE 1990S BRITISH man rates friends and family over a good sex life and does not particularly enjoy beer and curry.

A research company asked 500 men about their priorities in life and concluded that a new breed of family man is replacing the workaholic yuppie.

Told to indicate their priorities, 63 percent chose family and friends. Sex was a priority for 33 percent. To relax, 30 percent of men choose sport, and only 9 percent - 2 percent of men aged 35 to 44 - said they like to drink beer in the pub after work and end the evening at a curry house.

Spy story

HANNA SEMER

PROF. Marcus Klingberg has spent the last 12 years behind bars. For most of this time, Israelis knew nothing of his fate. Charged with espionage, he was tried in camera. His file is still officially secret, as was his 20-year sentence for a long time.

The man bore an assumed name. He virtually disappeared. Even his fellow inmates had no idea who he might be. Except for his family, the only people to share the secret were those at whom the secrecy was supposedly aimed: his Soviet runners.

The Soviets are no more, and Klingberg has appealed for parole. He is already an old man.

Given a third of his term off, he could be out of prison in about two years – but in two years, he isn't likely to be anywhere. A combination of severe ailments threatens his life.

An old, sick man rots behind bars. Mercy and common sense demand his release

The law recognizes "permanently ailing" as a reason for release, and a Bureau of Prisons board confirmed that Klingberg's chronic ailments will indeed shorten his life. This wasn't disputed by the parole board considering his request.

Nevertheless, the parole board accepted the defense establishment's position that Klingberg's release would "endanger state security."

This is a morbid joke. A man of 76 might possibly renew a career in politics, but not in espionage, especially if he has a heart problem, recurring strokes and several blood conditions. One doctor said Klingberg is living "on a medical volcano." The prison medical board stated that, given his condition, Klingberg's prognosis is "poor."

I WAS alerted to Klingberg's case when I read that he might have been swapped, as part of a complex deal, for Israeli Air Force navigator Ron Arad, and perhaps other Israeli prisoners. The deal fell through, along with the independent existence of the mediating country, East Germany.

These contacts took place five or six years ago. Today, Klingberg's release would be even less of a risk. The Soviet Union is no more, and Klingberg has been cut off from his information sources for 14 years, long enough to render obsolete whatever information he had. The claim that "security reasons" demand his further incarceration is ridiculous.

Why this cruelty? Revenge, deterrence? These are legitimate considerations. Certainly, if a spy walks out of prison before his sentence is up, it would signal other would-be spies that, if caught, they too might enjoy a measure of mercy.

This, however, presents a puzzle. Why do we refuse to do what we expect others to do? Why do we expect the US to give up a "deterrent" and release Jonathan Pollard, while we reject Klingberg's appeal?

Klingberg has no one to speak up for him. His customer – or employer – went out of business. Politically, this should work against his chances for early release; but logically, it should be the other way around.

Granted, the man committed treason. But he has paid the price, his prognosis is poor, and he has nothing to look forward to except death, which he wishes to await at the side of his only daughter.

We should have enough mercy on him for that.

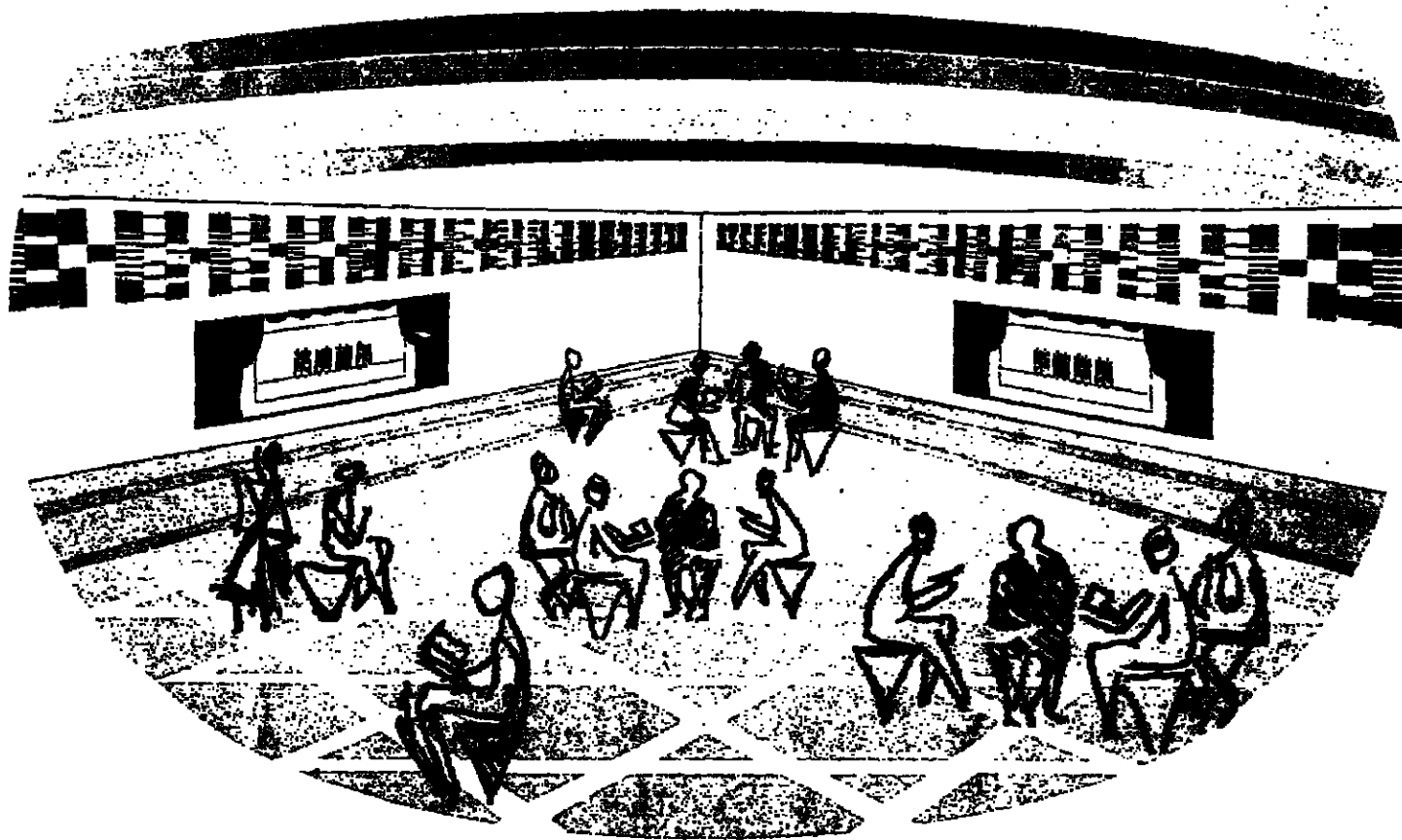
The writer is a former editor of Davar.

Min. of Immigrant Absorption Tel Aviv University Medical Faculty School of Health Disciplines

Registration is announced for an Academic Course in Health Disciplines (physiotherapy, speech pathology and occupational therapy).

The course is of two years' duration, and will take place at Tel Aviv University. Immigrants who meet the following criteria are invited to register:

- Those holding a medical studies completion certificate, issued in Russia, and who have not received a license to practice in Israel.
 - Immigrants who came to this country after April 1992. Candidates should register and complete a questionnaire at Tel Aviv University, Sackler Medical Faculty, 9th floor, Room 923, Sunday to Thursday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- When registering, you will be required to show: University certificate (the original) attesting that you have studied at a university abroad, and a facsimile copy of the certificate.
- Work booklet.



Sacred space for the 21st century

YAACOV AGAM

WHAT is the function of the synagogue, and does the architecture meet the needs of the worshippers?

After considering these questions for many years, I have concluded sadly that the architectural organization of most synagogues inhibits rather than enhances the spiritual aspirations of our people.

People go to synagogue to be part of a community. That is why Jewish communal worship requires a *minyan* of 10 or more people. The individual is only a part of a whole or unity, which in the *Shema* prayer is expressed as *Oneness*.

It has always disturbed me that upon entering the sanctuary, you see a back view of the community.

That is because the synagogue follows the old Roman or Greek theatrical concept, with a seating hierarchy. The front rows are reserved for people of means and influence, followed by the poor and the slaves. Such a configuration contradicts a fundamental Jewish spiritual concept: we are all equal before God.

I also object to the placement of the ark and *bima* in one particular

location. (The ark is placed so that the worshippers, facing it, also face Jerusalem.) God is everywhere, and not limited to a given space. Wholeness cannot be isolated.

My ideal synagogue would use architectural innovations to create a sacred space that would truly satisfy our needs.

My ideal synagogue is daring and dynamic, fitting for God and man

Instead of seating people all in the same direction, facing the backs of heads, I would use revolving chairs. If everyone could turn 360 degrees, they could, at any time, face different people, constantly creating different community groups.

And, instead of appearing like an actor in front of his congregation, the rabbi could move around and between the people. Looking at our brothers and sisters, we could see ourselves as a people of shared ideals, values and aspirations, and as a reflection of the divine spirit.

Instead of assembling all the Torah scrolls in an ark, I would place them in different locations throughout the sanctuary to express the idea that God's glory fills the universe.

Rotating chairs could be added or removed to accommodate the exact number of worshippers present.

Empty seats project a disturbing and distracting sense of missing people and emptiness.

MORE COLOR could be used, as the covenant with God is sealed with a rainbow. Rainbow colors express our direct relationship with divinity and God.

The ark I designed for the Minnie Perle Synagogue of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York is composed of translucent Plexiglas prisms. The ark projects from the wall in three triangles, and its rainbow colors are gently diffused

through the angled prisms.

I wanted to dematerialize the Torah, which contains all the moral values of the Jewish people, and to have its spiritual feeling radiate out into the space of the synagogue.

The Torah scrolls seem suspended in the air, and you feel their presence, even though you don't see them until you open the doors of the ark.

The most daring innovations in technology and electronics should be employed to enhance our worship experience.

The *ner tamid* (eternal light) I created for the synagogue at the Palm Springs Jewish Community Center is controlled by computer, and the ark is engineered so that the Torah scrolls can be made to "disappear" when a nonreligious activity is performed.

If we wish to encourage our children to embrace a dynamic Judaism in the 21st century, we must create the right kind of space to meet our spiritual aspiration as Jews. This is an urgent challenge.

The writer is an Israeli artist and sculptor currently living in Paris. (Courtesy of Reform Judaism)

'No more hatred, no more fear...'

ALON BEN-MEIR

FROM the moment I arrived at Damascus Airport till the moment I left the city eight days later, I engaged every Syrian I met in a discussion about the Israeli-Syrian peace process.

The answers I received sounded rehearsed: "We want and desire peace, and the sooner the better." But peace, they quickly added, "must be based on a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights."

Nevertheless, the Syrian public has begun to think about the prospects for peace in real terms.

Conversations with scores of ordinary people from all walks of life made it abundantly clear that peace wasn't just a slogan. The individual Syrian views renewed war as an utter waste that can achieve nothing but further suffering and pain. Most Syrian families, I was told, have sustained terrible losses in past wars and have no stomach for renewed conflict.

The people I spoke to, whether taxi-drivers, shopkeepers, waiters, tailors, businessmen or teachers, refused to engage openly in any discussion about government policies, or mention President Assad by name. But they all talked freely and with excitement about the prospects of peace with Israel.

"I look forward to the day when I can trade with Israel," said shopkeeper Abd Al-Alhaim. "Inshal-

lah," he kept saying, "God willing, God willing."

For the vast majority of Syrians, Assad's characterization of the requirements for peace touches a deep nationalistic and emotional chord. Like the Israelis, the Syrians have become prisoners of a national psychological disposition created over the years to explain the 1967 war and its consequences.

For 27 years, successive Israeli governments projected the Golan as indispensable to their country's national security. During the same period, the Syrians were told by their government that the Golan had been captured through a war of aggression which had exacted a heavy national toll.

Desirable as peace has become in the eyes of ordinary Syrians, national pride and honor loom much larger, making peace unthinkable under any circumstances other than total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan.

And what about the hatred and animosity toward Israel? I asked Ahmad Hassan, a tailor in the old city of Damascus.

"No, no," he said emphatically. "We Syrians believe in the proverb 'Afrit mat' [what is past is dead]. No more hatred and no more fear, we want to live and let live."

SOCIALLY, the Syrians appear to enjoy a healthy balance between the Ba'ath socialist political orientation and the state religion of Islam.

Though Islam is predominant and the Syrians' general outlook is conservative, personal freedom is growing without upsetting the delicate social balance the government is bent on preserving.

The Syrians are proud of the fact that there is hardly any crime, that no drug addicts roam the streets of Damascus. They boast that there is only a handful of

Ordinary Syrians are starting to believe peace is really possible

AIDS cases, and point out the complete sense of personal safety that exists throughout the country. The measured liberalization the Syrians have experienced over the past three years has raised expectations that peace with Israel will pave the way for more personal freedom.

But the strains of two and a half decades of limited political and social freedom are apparent. Abu-Omer, a taxi driver, rolled up his car window before he would answer even a sympathetic question about Assad's domestic policies.

Economically, the government's three-year-old development program has dramatically changed the economic outlook for the majority of Syrians. Private industrial investment, the expansion of farmland, light industry and food processing, and more liberal import and export policies have together made Syria nearly self-sufficient in food production.

Still, in spite of this remarkable progress, the average Syrian worker in the private or public sector earns only between 4,000 and 5,000 Syrian lira (\$100-\$120) per

month, making it extremely difficult for the single provider to cope financially.

Since most women stay at home to care for their children, men often seek hard-to-get second jobs to supplement their income. For the average Syrian, only peace would open up extensive economic opportunities, further expand the market economy and attract the foreign capital so essential to creating sorely needed, well-paid jobs.

Over the last three years, the Assad government has been conducting a low-key public relations effort to present the idea of peace with Israel as a viable option that would ensure regional stability and prosperity.

Newspapers, TV and radio have been given the green light to discuss the advantages of peace. But having openly and publicly made the condition of total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights a prerequisite to restoring national honor, Assad may have painted himself into a corner.

"But patience pays," says restaurant owner Abu Salem. "The Israelis will eventually realize that we mean business when we say we want peace – and the price is the Golan."

For a people who have followed the flag patiently and sacrificed much to contemplate peace, recovering their land seems not only natural, but an imperative.

I am firmly convinced that the Syrian people will follow their leader, not because his portrait looks down on them everywhere they go, but because they really believe in his concept of "a peace of the brave."

The writer, a professor of international relations at New York University, has just returned from a trip to Syria and Jordan.

Cairo's anti-Israel campaign

GERALD STEINBERG

THE progress made in the peace process with Jordan and some other Arab states stands in sharp contrast to the growing hostility from Egypt. In international forums and regional meetings, Egyptian officials are working to isolate and weaken Israel, and this campaign has become a major obstacle in the overall peace process.

This Egyptian campaign is also threatening to block progress in the multilateral negotiations on arms control and regional security.

The Egyptian government's activities center on the issue of Israel's alleged nuclear capability and the 1995 conference on the extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). The Mubarak regime has demanded Israeli ratification of this document and an end to the policy of nuclear ambiguity.

In meetings of the UN General Assembly and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Egyptian representatives present one-sided resolutions demanding that Israel sign the NPT, while remaining silent on the Iraqi nuclear program.

In his visit to Israel at the end of August, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa focused exclusively on this issue. In every meeting and public appearance, Moussa demanded that Israel reverse its nuclear policy immediately, charging it is a major obstacle to regional peace.

Israeli leaders, regarding the NPT as inadequate for the preservation of security, have consistently rejected this pressure. For more than 25 years, Israeli nuclear ambiguity has been a stabilizing factor in the Middle East. This policy has prevented the Arab states from launching full-scale attacks that threaten Israel's existence, while also persuading Egypt, Jordan, and perhaps Syria to enter serious peace negotiations.

Egypt's campaign to strip Israel of this deterrent raises fears that instead of sincerely seeking peace, the Arab states have simply adopted new tactics to achieve their goal of destroying Israel.

The Egyptians are well aware of this background, as well as of the fact that the NPT has failed to prevent proliferation in the Middle East. Iraq and Libya are NPT signatories, but their leaders have ignored their obligations and IAEA safeguard requirements.

Iran, which is also an NPT signatory, is apparently attempting to develop nuclear weapons, and has recently threatened to withdraw from the treaty.

The Egyptian policy is thus clearly not based on substance. Rather, it constitutes a public-relations campaign designed to pressure and isolate Israel.

ISRAEL HAS not been silent in the face of this campaign. Government representatives note that nuclear weapons cannot be completely differentiated from the massive conventional and chemical arsenals of the Arab states, as well as their ballistic missiles.

Since the NPT framework does not provide a basis for mutual limitations of these weapons, Israel

policymakers have proposed the development of a new regional structure, which must embrace all states, including Syria, Iran, Iraq and Libya, and cover all forms of weapons.

If Egyptian leaders are really interested in substantive arms control agreements, they would end their PR campaign, and work constructively with Israel. Ironically, the Egyptian government's blocking of progress in the regional negotiations has endangered the overall momentum of the peace process. Instead of acting as a bridge between Israel and the Arab world, Egypt has chosen to create obstacles.

Instead of acting as a bridge, Egypt is creating obstacles

The Mubarak government's policies have also led to a major rift between Cairo and Washington. US policymakers have placed a high priority on the indefinite extension of the NPT, and most understand Israel's position that this is not the time to pressure it on this crucial issue. The US also recognizes that the Egyptian campaign and its efforts to gain the support of other states are a source of conflict in a very sensitive area, endangering the broader negotiating process.

In the past few days, there have been a few signs that the Egyptian government may be changing tactics, perhaps in response to warnings from the US and the lack of support from other governments. In the UN, Egypt again introduced two resolutions focusing on this issue, but agreed to changes in the language that had the effect of softening the exclusive focus on Israel and the NPT.

For the first time, the resolution dealing with the creation of a Middle East Nuclear Weapons Free Zone included a specific reference to the need to link this issue with the peace process, and also acknowledged the need for a regional framework.

However, these changes have not been reflected in other statements by the Egyptian government, and in Cairo, officials continue to press the anti-Israel campaign.

The five months before the opening of the NPT Extension Conference coincide with a critical period in the peace process and negotiations with Syria. If the Egyptian effort to isolate Israel continues, it could result in major damage to the process of confidence building in the region.

However, if Cairo has received the message and ends this campaign, while contributing to the extension of confidence building measures, the Mubarak government can again become a major bridge between Israel and the rest of the Middle East.

The writer directs research on arms control and Israeli security at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies, Bar-Ilan University.

Israel Airports Authority REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Israel Airports Authority is interested in receiving detailed information from manufacturers or suppliers of container pallet loaders. The required information is for loaders that can serve either the lower deck and the main deck of wide-body aircraft, or narrow-body main decks, or both.

The information should consist of the following data:

- Detailed technical information including specifications of the loader and its subsystems, such as engine, hydraulic system, platform, etc.
- Details of the total number of the various loaders that have been sold in the last three years, including names of the airports using these loaders.
- Name of Israeli representative, including telephone and fax number, and details of the technical support that can be provided by him in Israel.
- Company's profile, including experience in the manufacturing of container pallet loaders, including the location of the logistic center (in Europe and the U.S.A.).
- Price list for standard loaders of each kind.

Information will be received no later than December 11, 1994.

Information should be sent to the following address:
Israel Airports Authority
Purchasing Department
P.O. Box 7
Ben Gurion International Airport 70100, Israel
Attention: Daniel Lev

(05-121201)



For further information please call 03-6961297

Exhibitions

17th-Century Dutch Family Portraits
An outstanding exhibition for the whole family, including major works on loan from the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.
A Fence of Cypress, Fruit of Time, Mr. Sweetie
Mizne-Blumental Collection
Gallery Talk in English
Wed., 30.11, 11.30 a.m.

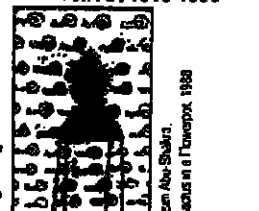
Performance

Adina Bar-On, Alon Ellat
"Breath" (approx. 1 hour)
Wednesday, 30.11, 7 p.m.

Video

Irif Batsary
Passage to Utopia - A Trilogy, 1985-1993 (88 mins.)
Sunday, 27.11, 8.30 p.m.
Starting 1.12: Bruce Nauman, "Violent Incident", 1986
Peter Fischli and David Weiss, "The Way Things Go", 1987

Helena Rubinstein Pavilion New Exhibitions
Asim Abu-Shakra: Paintings
The Motif of the Cactus in Israeli Art 1910-1990



Music
Saturday, 26.11, 8.30 p.m.
Double Concerto Series
The Israel Camerata Rahovot
Haydn - Mini Marathon.

Lecture
Wednesday, 30.11, 8.30 p.m.
The Cinema: Art or Entertainment?
1st lecture in series: A Terrifying Introduction to Horror Films.
Dr. Henry Unger (Hebrew).
Saturday, 26.11, 11.00 a.m.
Saturday Magazine (Hebrew)

Children
Around the City
Sala Art Activity Centre. From 1.12
Stepping Out of the Frame
Gallery Show, Sat., 26.11, 11.30 a.m.

Chankuka
Morning Adventure 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Grades 1-2: 23.11, 1.12
Grades 3-4: 30.11
Thursday, 1.12
11.30 a.m.: The Dada Company
4.30 p.m.: Concerto for Clowns

Visiting Hours
Sun, Mon, Wed, Thurs.
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Museum Shop until 9 p.m.
Tues., 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Museum Shop open also 7-10 p.m.
Tel Aviv Museum of Art
27 Shaul Hamelech Blvd.,
Tel. 6961207
Helena Rubinstein Pavilion
For Contemporary Art
6 Tarnat Blvd., Tel. 6287196
Art Education Centre
8 Dubnow St., Tel. 6819155

TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART

Available to exempt persons only.

Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental design. The subjects were divided into two groups: a control group and an experimental group. The control group received a placebo (P) and the experimental group received a treatment (T). The subjects were divided into two groups: a control group and an experimental group. The control group received a placebo (P) and the experimental group received a treatment (T). The subjects were divided into two groups: a control group and an experimental group. The control group received a placebo (P) and the experimental group received a treatment (T).

Key Representative Rates

US dollar	NIS 3.0370	+0.46%
Sterling	NIS 4.7468	-0.31%
Mark	NIS 1.9506	-0.13%

WIRE MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

Country	Rate	Change
Canada	1.3625	-0.002
France	6.5455	-0.002
Germany	3.3665	-0.002
Italy	1.3665	-0.002
Japan	150.15	-0.002
UK	4.7468	-0.31%
Spain	166.36	-0.002
Sweden	8.4665	-0.002
Netherlands	2.2035	-0.002
Belgium	36.3665	-0.002
Australia	1.5465	-0.002
New Zealand	1.5465	-0.002
South Africa	10.5465	-0.002
Israel	3.0370	+0.46%

Labor rates

Country	Rate	Change
Canada	1.3625	-0.002
France	6.5455	-0.002
Germany	3.3665	-0.002
Italy	1.3665	-0.002
Japan	150.15	-0.002
UK	4.7468	-0.31%
Spain	166.36	-0.002
Sweden	8.4665	-0.002
Netherlands	2.2035	-0.002
Belgium	36.3665	-0.002
Australia	1.5465	-0.002
New Zealand	1.5465	-0.002
South Africa	10.5465	-0.002
Israel	3.0370	+0.46%

(Spot market rates are from approximately 2:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Source: Comstock Trading Ltd. (Data 24-NOV-94)

Foreign financial data courtesy of

CommStock Trading Ltd.

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem,
Tel. 02-244863, 03-5758826
Fax. 02-244876

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15 minutes and you're done...

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Member of the Bank Leumi Group

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Financial Institutions

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Insurance

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Trade & Services

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Industrials

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Investment Companies

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Oil Exploration

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Parallel List

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Two-sided trading

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Afternoon

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Morning

Commercial Banks	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	150.15	-0.002
Bank Hapoalim	149.15	-0.002
Bank Mizrahi	148.15	-0.002
Bank Discount	147.15	-0.002
Bank Haheretz	146.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	145.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	144.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	143.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	142.15	-0.002
Bank Hahinukh	141.15	-0.002

Source: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

Due to yesterday's holiday in the US, only some of the international stock data is available today.

Maof option expiration dominates TASE

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO



THE expiration of November Maof options yesterday was clearly the dominant factor in the day's trading. In fact, one can say that conventional trading took a break and let the various Maof interests compete for whatever results they were trying to achieve.

The Two-Sided Index rose 0.78%, the Maof by 0.46% while the Karam as basically stationary, posting a 0.03% rise. Total turnover was NIS 132.4 million to which the Karam market contributed NIS 32m.

The Maof index was clearly on everyone's mind. As one trader put it, "serious business will start again on Sunday. Today, let the Maof arbitrageurs play their game."

There were three sets of forces at work: The conventional traders tried to buy in the morning; the Meretz market opened with a surplus of buy orders of NIS 18 million and prices generally rose. In the first hour of trading, the Maof PUT options were generally down while the CALLS rose. The first quote of the Maof index was at 171.

The second set of forces was Maof Options speculators who were interested in seeing the index rise or decline, depending on their positions. Since there is a general surplus of PUT open positions, it was clear that they would try to depress the market.

The third group of forces was the options writers (those who had originally written the option and those who would be responsible for honoring its terms.) Their interest was clearly to have the index as close as possible to 170 since at that price, neither the CALL nor the PUT would carry any value.

At 1 p.m., the fight began. It was more a wrestling game than a stock exchange. Trading was erratic at times. Specific shares, particularly those with a high weighting on the Maof index, were the object of heavy trading, with the prices going up and down for no apparent reason.

From the second hour of trading, prices started slipping. From a high nearly 171, the Maof index started slipping, with each quote declining by 0.1%. At times, those interested in raising the index would counterattack and that is how most of the trading took place during the day.

Among the rises of the day, Cables up 7.2%, Yaad up 5%, and La Nationale up 6.2%. Koor was up 1.5% on a turnover of NIS 7.5 million, and Bezek up 2.1% on a turnover of NIS 2 million.

Trading on Sunday will reflect the feelings of traders who will be able to ignore the Maof index options. The next expiration date will be at the end of January. In the meantime, prices will again start reflecting market fundamentals, and in particular, the interest rates. The next hurdle will be when the Bank of Israel announces its monetary policy for the month of December. A further rise in interest rates might hit the market hard. Another variable is whether inflation abates or continues as it did in recent months. Time will tell.

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Hevrat Ha'ovdim meeting goes nowhere

THE convention of Hevrat Ha'ovdim, the Histadrut holding company, adjourned yesterday without passing any legal resolutions, for lack of the 1,000-delegate quorum required to make any changes in the Histadrut constitution.

The convention, attended by only 440 out of the 1,500 delegates, was convened to decide whether to sell Histadrut properties, such as Bank Hapoalim and Koor, to pay its debts to Kupat Holim and other creditors.

To do this, however, this requires a change in the Histadrut's constitution, for which a minimum of 1,000 delegates is needed.

However, changing the constitution to sell off Histadrut assets might itself be illegal and may not be approved by the registrar of cooperative associations. This is because the Histadrut's assets belong to all its members, and are not the property of the Histadrut leadership to sell.

Although it accomplished nothing, the meeting was a stormy one, with sharp verbal attacks exchanged by Histadrut Chairman

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Haim Ramon and leaders of Labor's Histadrut faction. At one point, when a furious Ramon rose to answer criticism voiced by Personnel Section Head Meir Gatt, most of Labor's delegates rose and left the already half-empty hall. They did not return for the vote.

This is the second time the convention has met on this issue. The first time, in September, a resolution

to sell the companies was passed, but was rejected by the registrar of cooperative associations, as a quorum was not present at that meeting.

The convention will be convened for a third time on December 5. This time, according to regulations, any amount of delegates can pass resolutions changing the constitution.

Friedman, Tshuva vie for 'Davar,' 'Al Hamishar'

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

FRENCH millionaire Jean Friedman and Netanyahu businessman Yitzhak Tshuva are vying for ownership of the daily newspapers *Davar* and *Al Hamishar*, which are both on the verge of closure.

Friedman and Tshuva are reportedly aiming to purchase the two newspapers and to merge them into one.

This week, Friedman confirmed he was holding negotiations with the Histadrut and *Davar's* action committee over purchasing the paper, on condition that the Histadrut honors all its obligations to the newspaper and its workers.

Friedman was referring to the Histadrut's agreement to continue to subsidize the newspaper for three to four years and pay NIS 25 million in severance.

Tshuva, who was the "most serious" candidate to buy *Davar* according to Ramon, reportedly lost interest in the project more than a month ago. Later, he was reported to have almost closed a deal with Hakibbutz Ha'artzi over buying the controlling interest in *Al Hamishar*. After Tshuva dropped out of the picture, Ramon rejected

the *Davar* action committee's bid and the paper's closure next month appeared inevitable.

However, after it became known that Friedman was seriously thinking of buying *Davar*, Tshuva renewed his interest in the project, *Davar* sources said.

Whoever buys *Davar*, the sources stressed, will have to accept the role of strategic investor, while the workers, as represented by the action committee, will be the owners and operators. "Ramon has said he would give the bid from *Davar's* workers priority. How will he look in public if he sells *Davar* to private hands, after rejecting the workers' bid?" one source asked.

Davar's union entered this week into negotiations with Ramon and Histadrut leaders over severance and pension settlements in case the newspaper closes down or a group of journalists is forced to leave. Until two days ago, a *Davar* union member said, Ramon refused to talk to the union about these issues, claiming the Histadrut neither owns *Davar* nor is it directly responsible for it.

200 women hold protest march against violence

RAINE MARCUS

RAIN did not dampen the spirit of some 200 women who marched through the streets of Tel Aviv last night protesting violence against women.

Waving banners reading "My body belongs to me" and "The place of a violent man is not in the home, but in jail," the women, and a handful of men, chanted anti-violence slogans.

Seventeen women have been killed by their husbands since the beginning of the year, and women's organizations estimate that 105 have been murdered by abusive partners since 1991.

The police do not keep statistics on such killings, but figures are recorded by women's organizations based on articles in the press.

This morning, the Israeli Association for the Victims of Sexual Violence is organizing an event at Tel Aviv's Tzavta club to mark International Day for the Struggle Against Violence Against Women. The event will feature a documentary film on incest, poetry readings by victims of violence, a therapy group for incest victims, and speeches by women who have been abused. Called "Women Break the Silence," it is scheduled to take place between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

DERI

(Continued from Page 1)

The source noted that Meretz is likely to mount stiff opposition to each status quo bill as it comes up, and Shas will have no proof of Labor's commitment to support it.

But it was argued in Labor that the party is unlikely to go back on its word if it wants to keep Shas in the coalition.

Meanwhile, Deri admitted yesterday that Labor MK Rafi Edri had helped him raise funds for his legal defense against corruption charges. At a gathering of the Israeli chapter of the Association of Moroccan Jews, Deri described

how Edri put him in touch with rich Jews of Moroccan extraction from whom he eventually elicited contributions, "after they became convinced of the justice of my case."

The political arena had long been rife with rumors that Edri, a key figure in Labor's attempts to woo Shas back to the coalition, is helping Deri finance his legal expenses.

Edri was not delighted about Deri's admission and commented that "Deri doesn't need my connections; he's got plenty of his own."

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Daniel leads Maccabi past Real

JOEL GORDIN

MACCABI Tel Aviv bounced back to glory days last night with a heartwarming 93-85 win over Real Madrid at Yad Eliyahu. It was Maccabi's first win in the European Club Championships' final pool, after the losses to PAOK Saloniki (at home) and to Panathinaikos (in Greece).

The hero was Motti Daniel, who came off the bench to score 26 points, second only in the game to the legendary Latvian giant Arvidas Sabonis who did not disappoint with 28.

Maccabi started well and kept control of the pace of the game. Playmaker Guy Goodes moved fast, assisting Doron Jamchee to get some early points. However, it soon became apparent that Sabonis was no lightweight and the bear-like Latvian shot baskets from any point on the court.

Meanwhile, Maccabi coach Muli Kazurin had taken Daniel off the bench earlier than usual and the mercurial "sixth man" scored fast to keep the Israelis in the

fight. The ability to score points exactly when needed was something Daniel repeated throughout the game. In addition to Sabonis, Maccabi was having trouble with the other center, Antonio Martin, who penetrated a few times through the faltering defense to score from under the boards.

However, what Maccabi was lacking in technique it made up in enthusiasm and its fighting spirit never allowed the Spaniards to break away to an overwhelming lead.

Doron Jamchee improved after a slow start, and right on the half-time buzzer he sank four points in a row when Maccabi was awarded a technical foul after a Spaniard had something nasty to say about one of the referees.

This helped Maccabi trim Madrid's halftime lead to 49-47. Maccabi, in fact, could have been well ahead if not for its poor free-throw average (only eight of 13).

But in the end, ironically, Maccabi won the game with excellent free-throw shooting. Throughout the second half the team was on top of the Spaniards and it came into the final minute 87-83 ahead. Madrid had no option but to stop the clock with fouls, but first Radoslaw Curcio, then Guy Goodes shot straight and true.

On the other side, Jose Burukov and Jose Laso both fired wild. John Arlauskas and Jamchee added a basket for each side to make the final score 93-85.

For Maccabi, Daniel is maintaining the red-hot form he showed on the tour with the national team in Europe.

Jamchee (20 points) did all that was expected while Henefeld (14) kept fighting despite his knee injury. Goodes has improved and is definitely better than the No. 2 playmaker Yisrael Elimelech who was kept on court too long in the first half. Curcio tried valiantly in

his tough role of defending Sabonis. Norris Coleman disappointed. For Madrid, Sabonis effortlessly sank 28, Arlauskas 23.

The 7,000 crowd was thrilled by a great game of basketball and a glimpse of what the Israeli champions can achieve if it keeps up the fighting spirit.

The fourth game next week will be in Italy against Scavolini Pesaro.

In other action in Maccabi's group, CSKA Moscow defeated Panathinaikos 77-70, Scavolini Pesaro beat Ljubljana 81-75, and PAOK Saloniki downed Benfica Lisbon, 74-68.

European Club Championships

Group A	W	L	Pts.
1. CSKA Moscow	2	0	6
2. Real Madrid	1	1	4
3. Scavolini Pesaro	1	1	4
4. PAOK Saloniki	1	1	4
5. Panathinaikos	0	2	0
6. Olimpia Ljubljana	0	2	0
7. Maccabi Tel Aviv	0	2	0
8. Benfica Lisbon	0	2	0

Taylor looks to spin for Ashes first Test

BRISBANE (Reuters) - Australian captain Mark Taylor indicated yesterday he would play two spinners, Shane Warne and Tim May, in his attempt to extend England's Ashes woes in the first Cricket Test starting in Brisbane today.

The pitch at the Gabba ground traditionally favors fast bowlers, but it looks unusually dry and is expected to take turn as the match wears on.

On the eve of the Ashes series, Taylor told reporters there was a "strong possibility" May would partner leg spinner Warne at the expense of one of the pace bowlers.

The pair shared 52 wickets in 1993 when the touring Australians routed their traditional foes 4-1 to win their third straight Ashes series.

Warne captured 34 of those wickets but credited much of his success to May's ability to tie down batsmen with his accurate off-breaks.

"They bowled well in tandem in England last year and helped create good pressure," Taylor said. "Both are in good form with the ball too, with Tim taking 10 wickets for South Australia against Western Australia in Perth recently," he added.

If May is selected, it is expected pace bowler Damien Fleming will be omitted.

England has chosen its team, but refused yesterday to name it. "We don't see why we should give the Australians our line-up now to let them prepare accordingly," said team manager Keith Fletcher.

Debate among England tour selectors has revolved around whether Mike Gatting or John Crawley should bat at number six. Crawley was thought to be favored, but there were indications as England practiced yesterday



FACING THE TEST - Australian captain Mark Taylor is deep in thought during a team practice at the Gabba yesterday in Brisbane. (AP)

morning that captain Mike Atherton may opt for Mike Gatting's experience.

"I think it's important to have the experience of winning and that's why people like Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting were chosen for the tour in the first place," Atherton said.

Gatting, 37, led England to an

Ashes win in Australia in 1986-87 but has been out of form for most of the trip, managing only 170 runs in eight innings. Crawley has scored 207 runs in his eight innings.

England will be missing fast bowler Devon Malcolm who was struck down with chicken pox on Tuesday.

Rockets fall again as Shaq leads Magic

ORLANDO (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal scored 30 points and Anfernee Hardaway had 29 points, nine rebounds and a career-high seven steals Wednesday night as the Orlando Magic handed the Houston Rockets their second consecutive defeat.

The triumph was the fifth straight for Orlando. Houston had opened the season with nine consecutive victories.

Hakeem Olajuwon led the Rockets, who lost to Portland on Tuesday night, with 27 points and 10 rebounds.

Jazz 113, SuperSonics 103. Jeff Hornacek sank an NBA-record 8-of-9 3-pointers and finished with a career-high 40 points in host Utah's win.

Hornacek hit all three of his long-range shots in the first period, then repeated the performance in the third quarter. He sank both of his attempts in the final period to break the old mark of 7-of-7 3-pointers set by Terry Porter in 1992 and tied by Sam Perkins in 1993.

Karl Malone added 20 points for Utah, while Sarunas Marciulionis led the Sonics with 21 points.

Suns 140, Clippers 109. Rookie Wesley Person scored 19 points as all 10 available Phoenix players scored to hand the winless Clippers their 11th consecutive loss.

Danny Schayes had 17 points, Danny Manning added 15 and Danny Ainge 11 points and 12 assists. Lamond Murray led the Clippers with 30 points.

The Suns won their fifth home this season. They had only 10 players for the game because of injuries to Kevin Johnson, Wayman Tisdale and Charles Barkley.

Celtics 98, Hornets 91. Dee Brown's 24 points sparked the host Celtics, who took a 26-point lead late in the third quarter, then held on.

Boston overcame an outstanding performance by Alonzo Mourning, who had 36 points, 12 rebounds and six blocks and led the Hornets back into the game.

After the Celtics took a 86-60 lead, the Hornets rallied to pull to 94-87 with 2:55 to go. Charlotte made one last charge as Mourning's dunk closed the

score to 96-89 with 44 seconds remaining. Darrin Hancock stole the ball and Johnson's layup cut the lead to five points with 34 seconds left. Johnson was fouled on the play, but missed the free throw.

Nuggets 113, Bulls 111. Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf's 3-pointer with 2.2 seconds left boosted host Denver to victory. Abdul-Rauf, who came off the bench to score 19 points, ended a duel down the stretch between Chicago's Scottie Pippen and Denver's Rodney Rogers.

B.J. Armstrong's 16-foot jumper had given the Bulls a 111-110 lead with 4.6 seconds remaining. Abdul-Rauf then took Reggie Williams' inbound pass at midcourt and got off a shot over Armstrong.

Rogers finished with a career-high 31 points, including 12 in the fourth quarter. Pippen had 29, including 15 in the final stanza.

Nets 103, Kings 98. Armon Gilliam scored 24 points, including two free throws with 34.3 seconds left, to help New Jersey end a six-game road losing streak.

Mitch Richmond scored 17 of his 27 points in the second half for the Kings, who led 75-74 after three quarters but made only two of their first nine shots in the fourth period.

Derrick Coleman had 21 points and 12 rebounds for the Nets. Walt Williams added 18 points for the Kings.

Lakers 118, Mavericks 106. Vlade Divac scored 27 points and Cedric Ceballos added 24 to lead the host Lakers' seventh consecutive victory over Dallas.

The Mavericks were led by Jamal Mashburn's 29 points and 27 by Jim Jackson.

The Lakers led 87-77 going into the final period and Dallas never got closer than eight points.

Dallas center Roy Tarpley made his first start since November 9, 1990, and wound up with just four points on 2-of-11 shots from the field. Tarpley was reinstated this season after being

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Orlando	7	2	.778	-
New York	6	3	.667	1
Boston	5	5	.500	2.5
Washington	4	4	.500	2.5
New Jersey	5	7	.417	3.5
Philadelphia	2	7	.222	5
Miami	2	7	.222	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Indiana	7	2	.778	-
Detroit	6	4	.600	1
Milwaukee	5	4	.556	1
Chicago	5	4	.556	1
Cleveland	5	5	.500	1
Charlotte	4	6	.400	2
Atlanta	4	7	.364	2.5



ON THE FLY - Chicago Bulls' guard Ron Harper drives past Denver Nuggets' center Dikembe Mutombo for a reverse layup attempt on Wednesday. (Reuters)

banned for violating the NBA drug policy.

Heat 100, Cavaliers 87. Glen Rice sparked a third-period rally and finished with 30 points as host Miami snapped a three-game losing streak.

Rice scored five points during a 9-2 run that gave the Heat a 75-60 lead with 3:05 left in the third period. Miami was never threatened after that, leading by as much as 21 and maintaining

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	9	2	.818	-
Denver	6	3	.667	1
San Antonio	6	4	.556	1
Utah	5	5	.500	2
Dallas	4	4	.500	2.5
Minnesota	1	10	.091	8

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Golden State	7	2	.778	-
Phoenix	7	3	.700	1
Portland	6	4	.600	1
L.A. Lakers	5	5	.500	2.5
Seattle	5	5	.500	2.5
Sacramento	4	4	.500	2.5
L.A. Clippers	0	11	.000	8

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS:

Boston 98, Charlotte 91
Orlando 117, Houston 94
Miami 100, Cleveland 87
Detroit 113, Milwaukee 108
Atlanta 89, Minnesota 77
San Antonio 110, Portland 105
Denver 113, Chicago 111
Utah 113, Seattle 103
Phoenix 140, L.A. Clippers 109
L.A. Lakers 118, Dallas 106
New Jersey 103, Sacramento 98

Maradona hints at return to soccer

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) - Diego Maradona, banned for 15 months for failing a drug test, said he was considering a comeback next year with first division club Boca Juniors.

"I'm thinking of the people who love me," Maradona told local radio. "So if I'm made an offer, then I'll sit down and talk."

Maradona, 34, said last August he would never play again after being banned by the FIFA world soccer governing body after testing positive for a cocktail of performance-enhancing drugs during the World Cup finals.

Currently coach of Deportivo Mandiyu, which is last in the Argentine first division, Maradona has repeatedly expressed his frustration at not being able to play.

His worldwide soccer ban expires in September 1995.

Renowned karate expert to lecture at Israel Museum

AN internationally renowned karate instructor will give an exhibition/lecture on the aesthetics and power of karate at the Israel Museum on Sunday at 19:00.

The talk, under the auspices of the Japanese Culture Club, is set to coincide with the Museum's current exhibition of Japanese Art.

Sensei Morio Higaonna, an 8th Dan black belt, will also conduct five training camps for Israel's karate students during his week-long stay.

As chairman of the International Okinawan Goju-Ryu Karate Do Federation, Higaonna will hold an inspection of Israel's facilities.

Bowls masters tourney held today

THE Lawn Bowls Association of Israel is hosting the SEC Sponsored Masters Invitation Tournament today and tomorrow at the Ra'anana Bowling Club. The top 16 bowlers in the country will be present, including some world champions.

SCOREBOARD

WEIGHTLIFTING - Russia's Aleksey Petrov set a world match record in the 91 kg category at the World Weightlifting Championships yesterday, lifting 186 kg. Petrov beat the record of 185.5 set by Georgian's Kakhi Kakhiashvili on September 17, 1994. Petrov went on to break his own world record in the jerk, lifting 228 kg.

King leading Australian Open

SYDNEY (AP) - Matthew King shot a 4-under-par 68 in difficult windy conditions yesterday and took a one-shot lead after the first round of the \$637,500 Australian Open golf championship.

King, a second-year pro whose father is a teaching professional, upstaged some of golf's biggest names around the 6,829-yard, par-72 Royal Sydney course.

"I'd be lying if I said I wasn't surprised to be leading at 4-under," said King. "I thought the scoring would have been a lot better in the morning."

Fellow Australians Brett Ogil and 20-year-old amateur David Brandson shot 69, while defending champion Brad Faxon of the US was in a group of players at 70.

That group also includes 1990 US PGA champion Wayne Grady, Craig Parry, Jeff Woodland and British Ryder Cup player Peter Baker.

Faxon three-putted three times, including the 14th and 18th holes, to fall out of a tie with King.

King's fortunes were in direct contrast to those of Greg Norman, whose bid for a fourth Australian Open title got off to a bad start when he shot a lackluster 74.

American Mark Calcavecchia who finished 19-under-par to win at Royal Sydney in 1988, shot a 3-under 33 on his first nine, but stumbled with double bogeys on the 13th and 18th holes and carded a 74.

The tournament continues through Sunday and offers a first prize of \$115,000.

Beit She'an to celebrate housewarming against Mac. TA

ORI LEWIS

THE damp midweek weather is certain not to have gone to the hearts or heads of Beit She'an's soccer supporters, whose team will for the first time ever, play a National League game on its own home ground tomorrow.

The Beit She'an's return from the shores of the Kinneret to their backyard, where their refurbished stadium will host one of the weekend's key fixtures against leader Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Beit She'an has been a difficult side at home, but that was at its home-away-from-home in Tiberias, where "keeper Meir Cohen has conceded only three goals.

It now remains to be seen whether Maccabi's class and experience will be enough and help it penetrate the Beit She'an defenses and keep its place at the top.

Maccabi should not be adversely affected by the absence of Alon Mizrahi, which has slapped a

permanent ban on him. On the contrary, with the easing of tension after the friction between him and coach Avraham Grant, the Tel Avivians may find it easier stamp their mark on the league once and for all.

With the tightest league race in years, any one of six clubs could take over the top spot after this weekend's 11th round.

Maccabi Tel Aviv leads on goal difference from Bnei Yehuda, Hapoel Tel Aviv and Hapoel Beer-sheba respectively. All have 19 points. Just two points behind them are Bnei Jerusalem and Hapoel Petah Tikva.

The featured match of the 11th round is the clash at Bloomfield between Bnei Yehuda and Maccabi Haifa. The match will be televised live on Channel 2.

Bnei Yehuda has headed the

league this season and cannot afford to let this chance of keeping in touch with the top slip away. The Haifa Quarter club is at full strength while the Haifa's, still trying to catch up with the rest, have several key players missing.

Goalkeeper Rafi Cohen is ruled out through injury, as is defender Alon Harazi, while Moshe Glan and Marco Balbul are suspended.

Another top-of-the-table clash sees Hapoel Tel Aviv and Hapoel Petah Tikva play in the earlier fixture at Bloomfield.

This weekend's National League fixtures (all matches tomorrow unless otherwise stated):

Zefirion Holon vs. Bnei Tel Aviv, Holon, today 14:30; Hapoel Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Petah Tikva, Bloomfield 15:45; Bnei Yehuda vs. Maccabi Haifa, Bloomfield 18:00; Ironi Rishon LeZion vs. Maccabi Netanya, Rishon LeZion 14:30; Bnei Jerusalem vs. Ironi Ashdod, Teddy Stadium 15:00; Hapoel Haifa vs. Hapoel Beer-sheba, Kiryat Eliezer 15:30; Hapoel Beit She'an vs. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Beit She'an 14:30; Maccabi Herzliya vs. Maccabi Petah Tikva, Herzliya 14:30.

Holyfield gets medical OK to fight again

ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP) - Evander Holyfield is healthy enough to fight again, just as he claimed.

The 32-year-old heavyweight, diagnosed as having a heart condition after his loss of the WBA and IBF titles to Michael Moorer last April, received medical clearance yesterday from the Mayo Clinic.

Holyfield is in "excellent health," said Mike O'Hara, a spokesman for the hospital.

After losing a majority decision to Moorer on April 22, Holyfield was diagnosed as having a "stiff heart," a non-compliant left ventricle that prevents sufficient oxygen from being pumped to muscles and tissues.

Holyfield, who was hospitalized for a few days

after his loss to Moorer, announced his retirement April 26.

In June, Holyfield said he had been cured by a faith healer and was considering fighting again. Later that month, doctors at Crawford Long Hospital at Atlanta said they found some improvement in Holyfield's heart condition.

Holyfield won the undisputed heavyweight championship with a third-round knockout of Buster Douglas in 1990 and lost it on points to Riddick Bowe in 1992. He regained the WBA and IBF titles on a decision over Bowe on November 6, 1993, then lost them to Moorer.

TODAY ON CABLE TV

CHANNEL 5

7:00 Bodies in motion 9:15 Argentinean league soccer 10:00 Brazil vs. Argentina 11:45 Kourao Cup basketball 12:40 European basketball: Hapoel TA v Riga 13:30 Spanish league soccer 15:00 WWF 16:00 Thai boxing 16:50 Israeli basketball magazine 17:20 Monday 17:45 Harelal 18:45 NFL 20:00 Bushido 20:30 CBA basketball 22:00 European soccer magazine

EUROSPORT

8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Tishbon 11:00 Leisure sports 12:00 ATP 12:30 UEFA Cup soccer 14:00 Champions league soccer 15:00 Live women's wrestling 17:00 Live figure skating from Germany 18:30 Live men's wrestling 20:30 Eurosport news 21:00 Live figure skating from Germany 23:30 WWF 00:30 Boxing 2:00 Eurosport news

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Live Australian Open golf 8:30 World of rugby 9:00 International motor racing magazine 10:00 Sports magazine 10:30 International sports magazine 11:00 WWF 12:30 Men's hockey 12:30 Asian soccer show 13:00 NBA behind the scenes 13:30 NBA: Golden State v Indiana 16:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Men's hockey 18:30 Australian Open golf 23:30 Sports magazine 00:00 International sports magazine 00:30 Cricket: Australia v England

SATURDAY NOV. 26

CHANNEL 5

8:30 Table tennis 9:30 Spanish league soccer 11:00 Monday 11:30 European soccer magazine 12:30 English league soccer 13:30 NFL 14:30 Volleyball 15:30 Handball 16:30 NBA 18:30 Show jumping 18:30 World rugby 19:00 (to be announced) 20:00 Israeli sailing 20:30 NBA 22:00 Israeli soccer 00:30 NFL

EUROSPORT

8:30 Aerobics 10:00 Golf 11:00 Live men's alpine skiing 12:30 Wrestling 13:30 Live men's alpine skiing 14:30 Rally 15:30 Live women's tennis 16:00 Figure skating 19:00 Live women's alpine skiing 20:15 Skiing highlights 21:00 Live figure skating from Germany 22:00 Live women's alpine skiing 22:40 Figure skating from Germany

PRIME SPORTS

8:00 Live Australian Open golf 9:30 Hong Kong Beijing rally 10:00 Asian soccer show 11:00 Show jumping 12:00 Hockey 12:30 International sports magazine 13:00 European soccer show 14:00 WWF 15:00 Sports magazine 16:30 Sailing 16:00 Cricket: Australia v England 18:00 Hockey 18:30 Golf 00:30 Cricket: Australia v England

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- The *Post*'s "agony aunt" Ruth Blum answers readers' questions.
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Secular-haredi protest expected again tonight

Meretz activists and haredim are expected to square off near Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan tonight, when haredim will demonstrate to close the road to Shabbat traffic and Meretz activists will protest to keep it open.

Over 20 secular Jews were arrested last Friday while taking part in an illegal demonstration on the road. Three haredim were arrested the next day for throwing rocks at passing cars.

This time the Meretz activists received a permit to protest, but only on condition that they hold the demonstration at a distance from the haredi neighborhoods.

Jerusalem Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said a large police contingent will be on hand to keep the two groups apart.

Rubinstein: South Tel Aviv schools improving

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE extensive funds and human resources being pumped into education in Tel Aviv's southern neighborhoods are beginning to show dividends, with a decrease in the dropout rate and an increase in the number of pupils doing *bagrut* examinations, Education Minister Amonin Rubinstein said yesterday.

He was speaking during a tour of the Rogozin, Kedma and Alliance schools in the Hatikva and Jaffa neighborhoods, accompanied by Mayor Ronni Milo and Deputy Mayor Avigdor Kahalani who is in charge of the education portfolio.

"The emphasis is on giving the weaker sectors of the population the chance to decide what is good for them, instead of accepting the

dictates of officials," Rubinstein said, referring to previous attempts to force integration by bus-ing pupils to schools in north Tel Aviv. "The parents and the children report that they are satisfied. We have put an academic emphasis into the schools in the southern quarters."

Sheli, a 10th grader at the Rogozin High School which had been the scene of fights over integration in previous years, yesterday said she had "chosen to come here. I like learning here." She said the pupils "get a lot of extra help from teachers and students who tutor us in small groups."

Zohar, who came to Israel from Georgia a year ago, expressed his satisfaction with the school in fluent Hebrew and said he had felt

the need to Hebraize his name so it would be easier for his friends to pronounce it.

But, in a special, small class for immigrants who will do *bagrut* examinations this year, Rubinstein heard that the main problems were "Bible - which we never studied in the CIS - and the attitude of the veteran Israelis who don't reach out to the olim."

At the entrance to the controversial Kedma school, deep puddles had formed in the playground. The school houses three homogenous seventh-grade classes and is well equipped but is clearly having some problems. Six of the original 75 pupils have dropped out and some of the pu-

pils previously studied in special-education frameworks.

Rubinstein, speaking informally to the pupils, said he had no problems with the school's emphasis on Oriental culture, provided that it was open to children of all backgrounds. "We should try to keep all our traditions in a pluralistic society," he said.

Meital, one of the pupils, read out a peace poem and asked Rubinstein when there would be exchanges of pupils with Jordan. But Yossi complained to Rubinstein about his classmate Shuki who, he said, gave the teachers non-stop headaches. "He's always causing a *balagan* in the classroom," Yossi said.

Osher, on the other hand, said he felt he had good chances of

getting a full *bagrut* in a special framework like Kedma. "Then I'll be able to get any job I want when I grow up."

"It is up to you to prove yourselves so that more classes can be added to the school next year," Kahalani told the pupils. As for the teachers, representatives of the parents heaped praise on them, saying they were an example to all the teachers in the country and gave unstintingly of their time.

The mayor called on the government not to rest on its laurels and to increase funding for the low-income neighborhoods. "We have taken risks in opening up these new frameworks," Milo said, "but the greater the risk, the greater the chances for success."

Report: Haifa cement mixer accident could have been prevented

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Haifa accident in which four people were crushed to death by a cement mixer earlier this week, could have been prevented had an authorized supervisor or contractor been present, a Labor and Social Affairs Ministry interim report has determined.

A final report will be issued only after the police complete their investigation of the incident. The accident occurred late Monday afternoon, when the cement mixer began pouring cement on the roof of a house extension being built for the Dakwar family.

The heavy cement mixer was parked at the top of a steep slope overlooking the house, while family members stood near the building site, watching the work.

The cement mixer needed to maneuver on the edge of the slope to get closer to the home. After reversing for a few minutes on the soft shoulders of the slope, the driver lost control and the huge machine plunged down the slope onto the four members of the Dakwar family standing below.

Attorney Imad Dakwar, who was standing on the roof of the extension when the incident occurred and was not hurt, said the accident "the hand of destiny."

But ministry inspectors ruled that the tragedy could have been prevented, had the cement mixer not been perched on the very edge of the slope and had the work not been carried out in the dark. Moreover, the report states, an authorized contractor should have been supervising the work.

It is not yet clear whether the accident was caused by a mistake by the mixer's driver, the failure of its brakes, the sinking of a wheel or faulty directions given to the driver by the cement pump operator.

Dakwar said that the building contractor, a relative, had checked out the area before proceeding with the work.



Cars were stuck up to their axles in water on a street near the Tel Aviv Fair Grounds yesterday, as heavy rains caused flooding and traffic jams in many parts of the country. Flash floods caused the closure of several roads in the Negev. The Meteorological Service reported that areas on the coast and inland have already received nearly half of their average annual rainfall. The rain is expected to die down later today, but more rain is expected tomorrow night.

(Text: David Rudge; Photo: Ya'acov Shabiel)

Probe set up to investigate Safed hospital blackout

DAVID RUDGE

AN inquiry has been launched into the cause of the breakdown which left the Rebecca Sieff government hospital in Safed virtually without power for more than 24 hours.

There were over 300 patients in the hospital throughout the brownout, including 10 in the premature infant, cardiac, and general intensive care units.

"This is not the sort of thing that should happen to a hospital, and we have asked experts from various bodies, including the Housing Ministry, to investigate the cause and apportion responsibility," said deputy hospital director Dr. Calin Shapira.

Linguist Reuven Sivan dies

Dr. Reuven Sivan, a linguist and translator who co-edited the Megiddo and Bantam-Megiddo Hebrew-English dictionaries, died yesterday in Jerusalem. He was 82.

Born in Jerusalem, Sivan was a member and adviser of the Hebrew Language Academy. He lectured in linguistics and education at the country's universities, and published textbooks and children's books. He was also honored for his work in developing the Hebrew typewriter.

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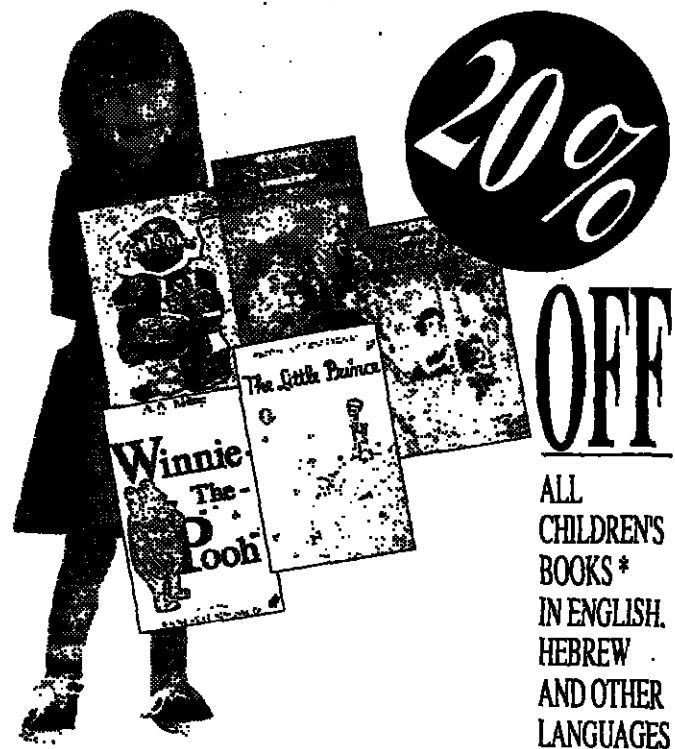
Illegal casino raided

Police raided an illegal casino in a Herzliya apartment early yesterday morning, arresting 36 gamblers, including seven organizers. Some NIS 20,000 and \$4,000 were seized, as were roulette and blackjack tables.

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